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MAY 19th, 1950.
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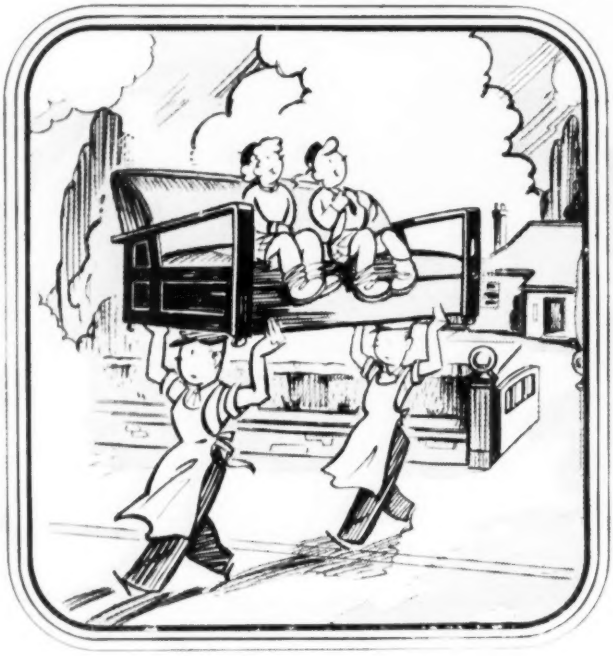
The Furnishing World

& FURNITURE BEDDING & UPHOLSTERY MANUFACTURER



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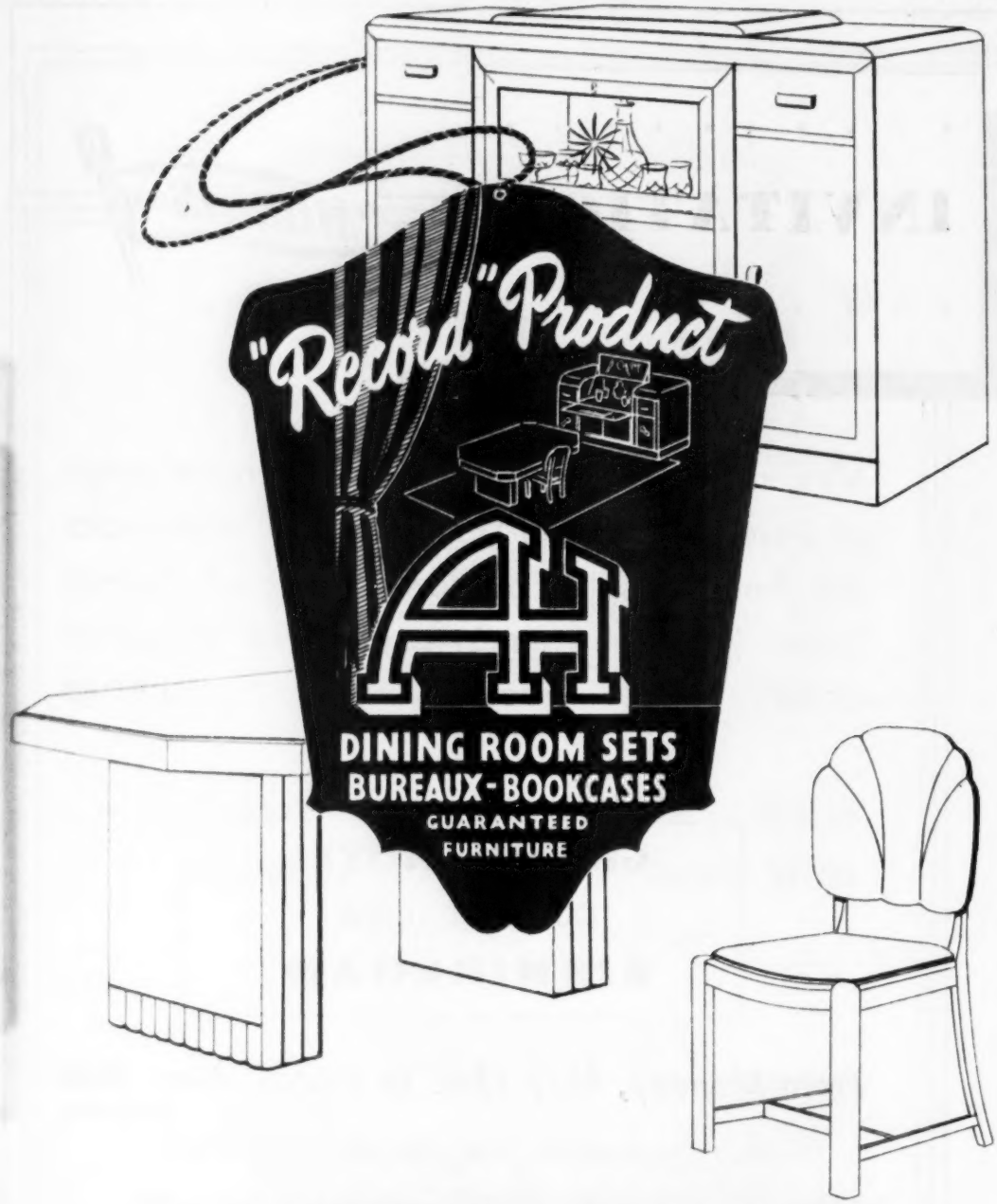

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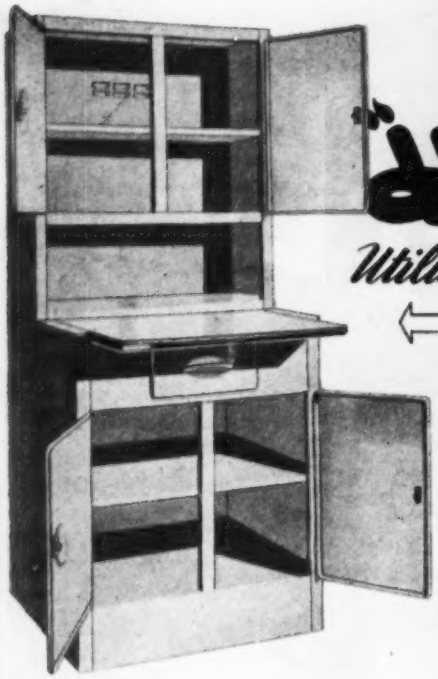

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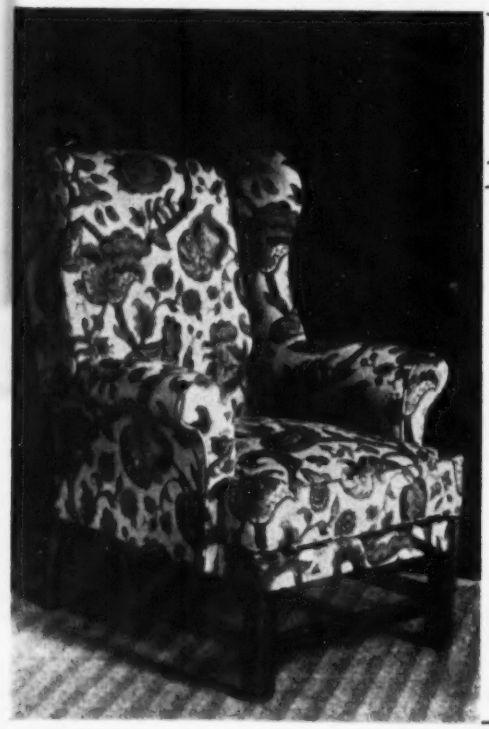

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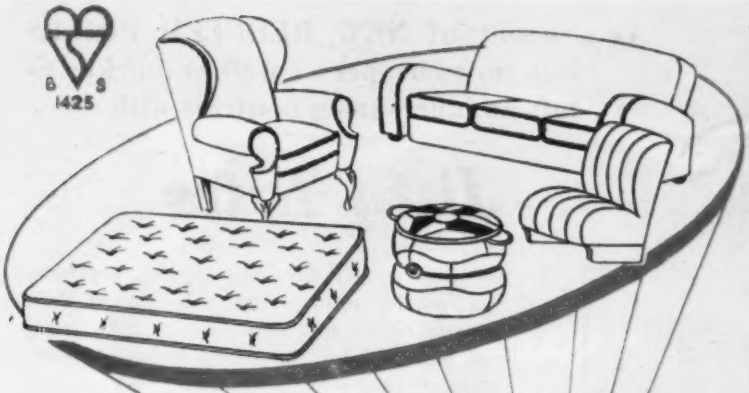

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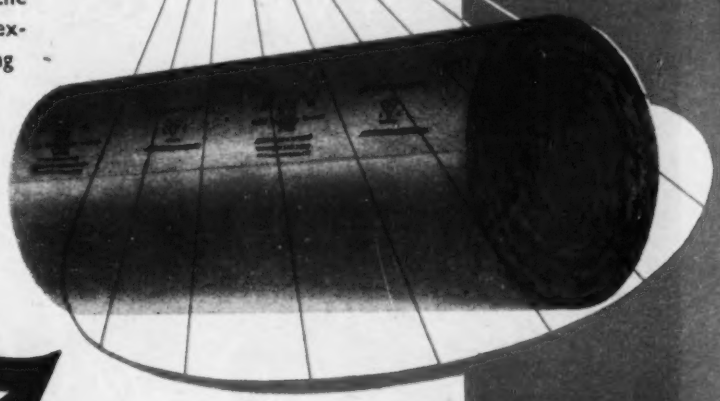

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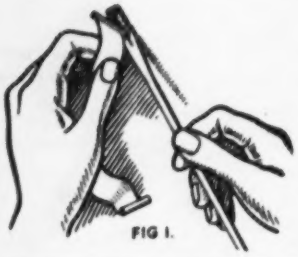

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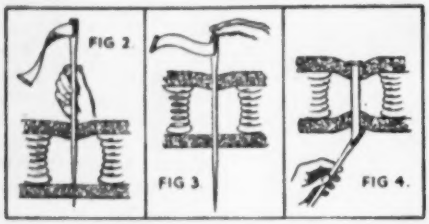

Fig. 1: Insert tuft in needle. Figs. 2 and 3: Push needle through mattress. Fig. 4: Draw needle clear when tuft slips out of needle with a slight twist.

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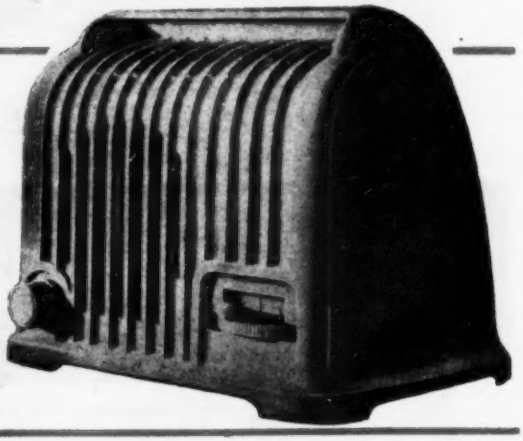

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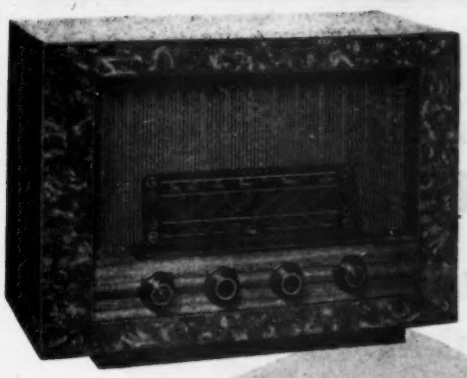

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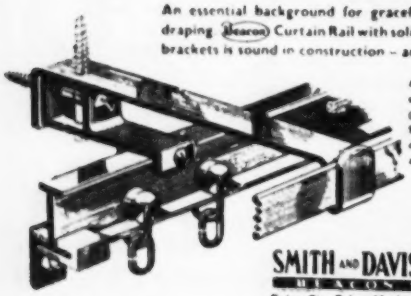

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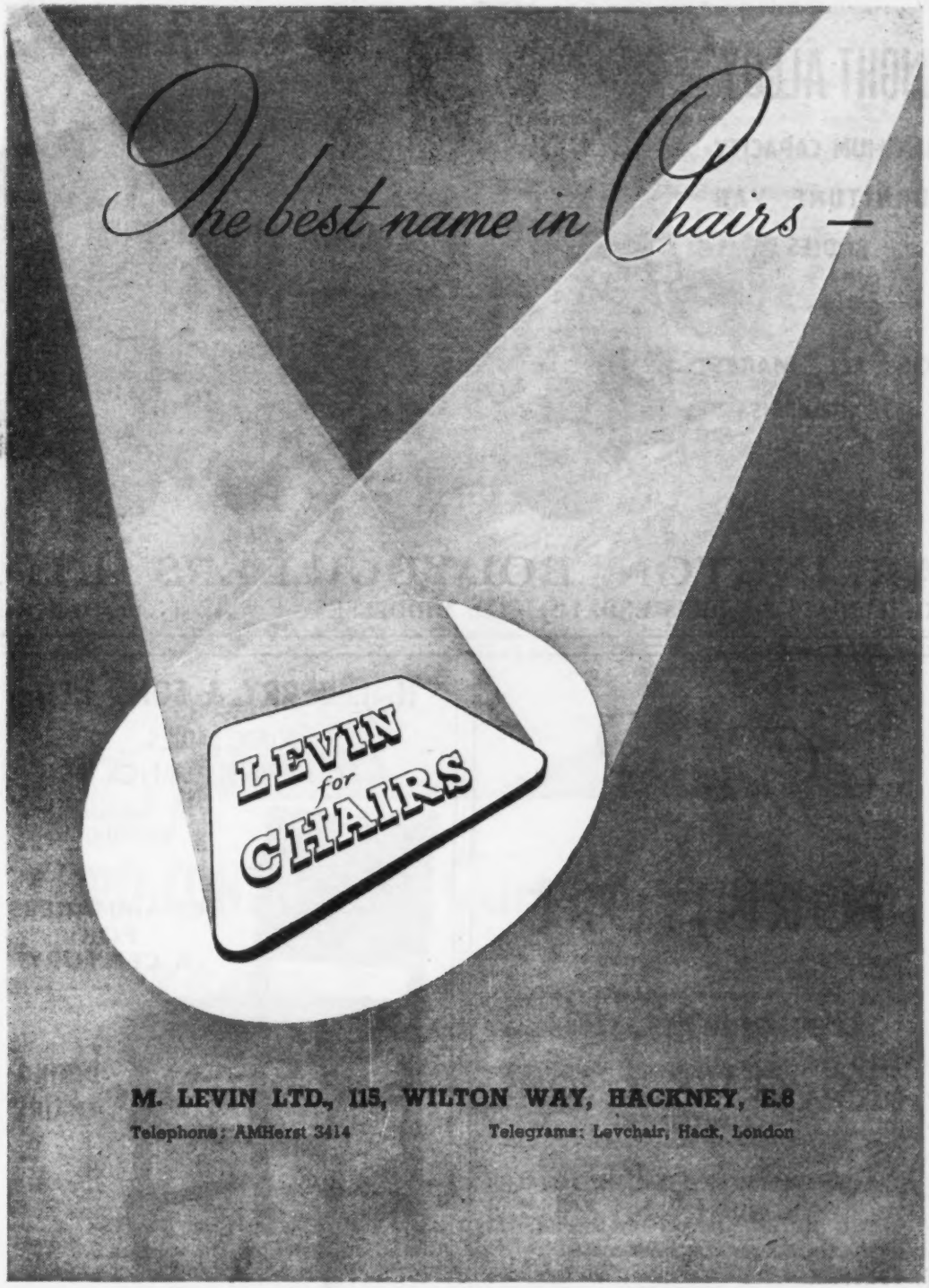
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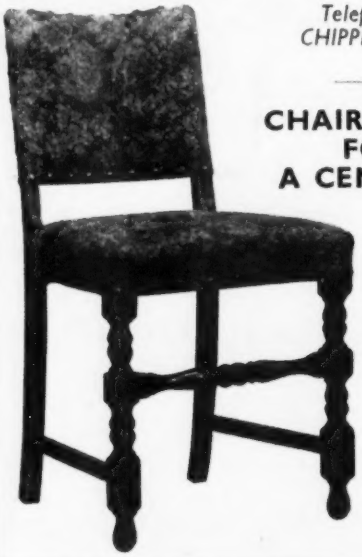

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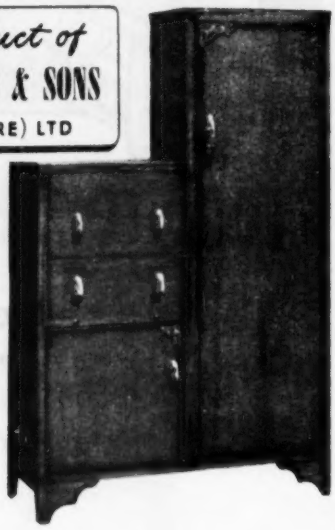

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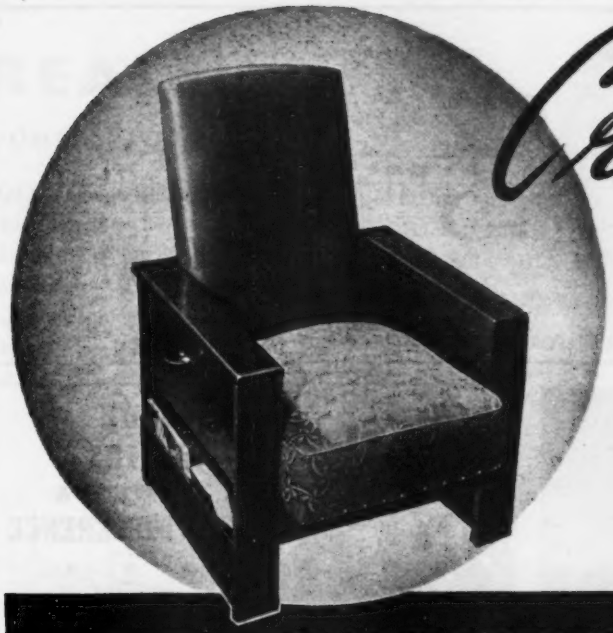

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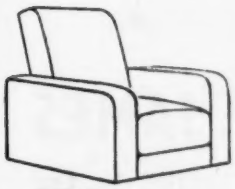

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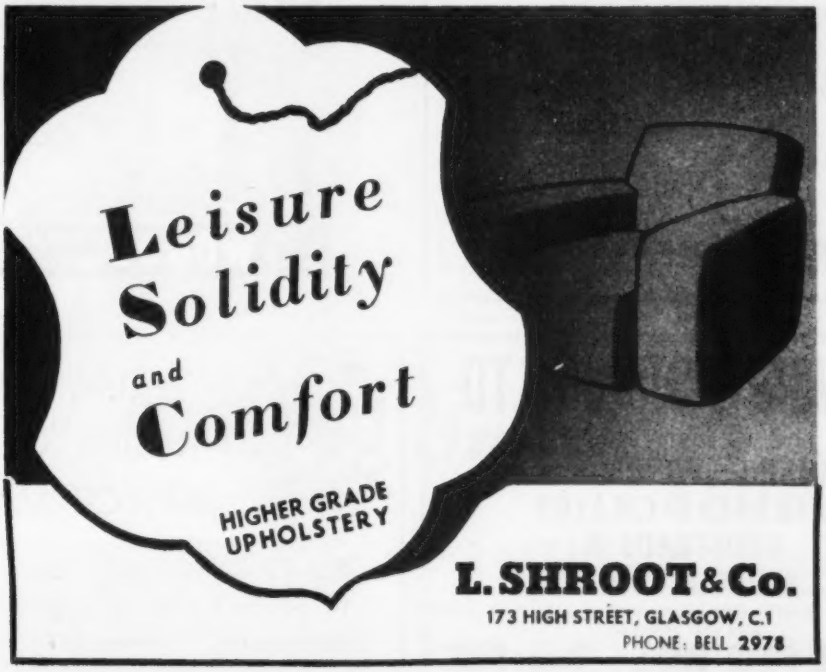

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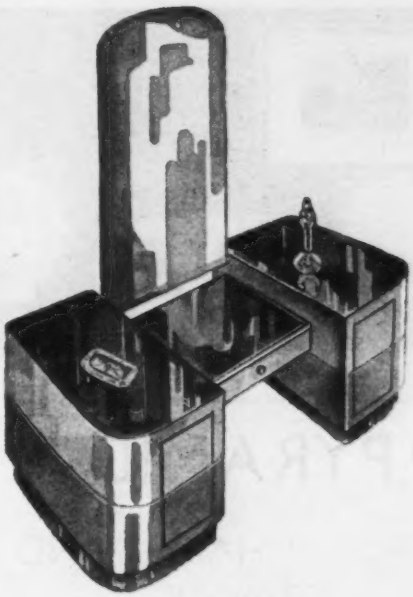

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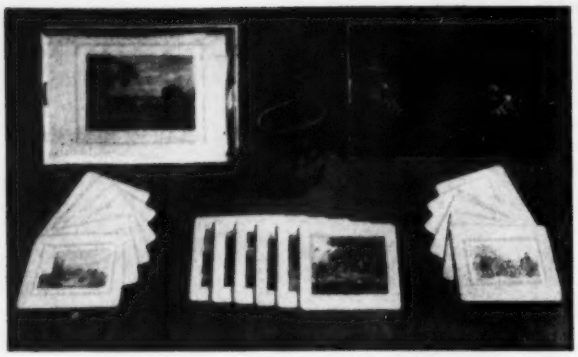

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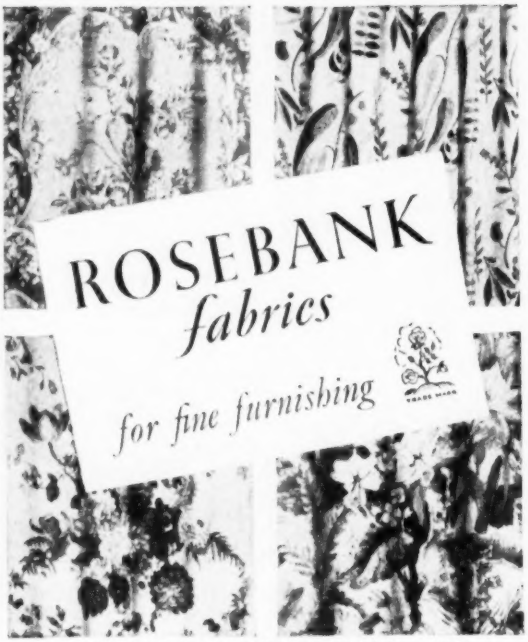

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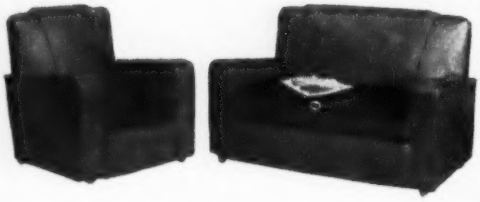

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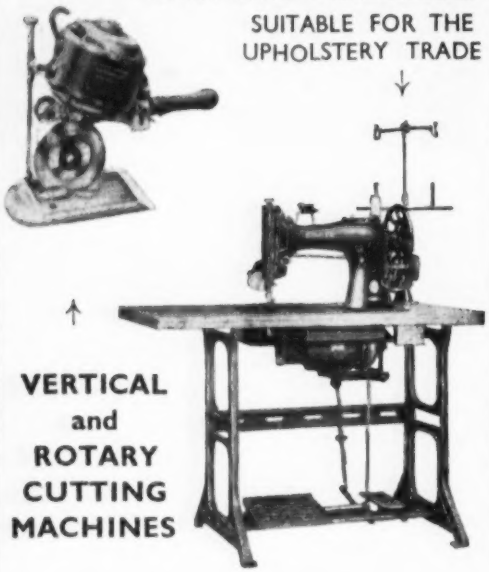

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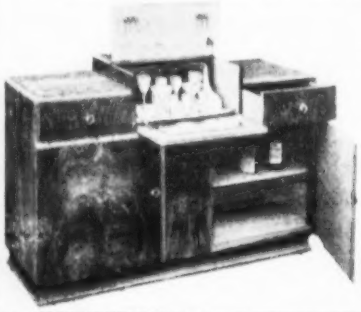

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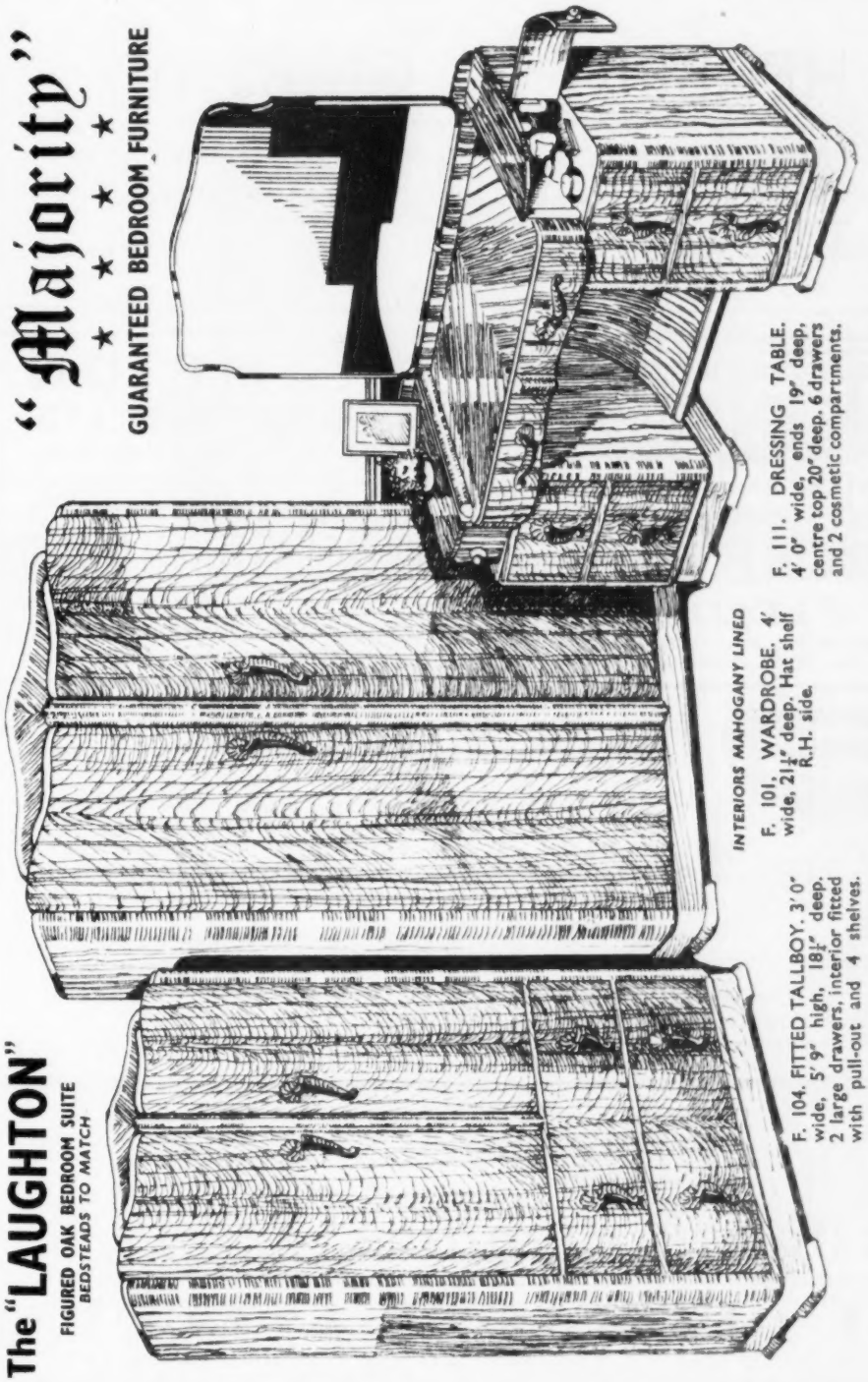

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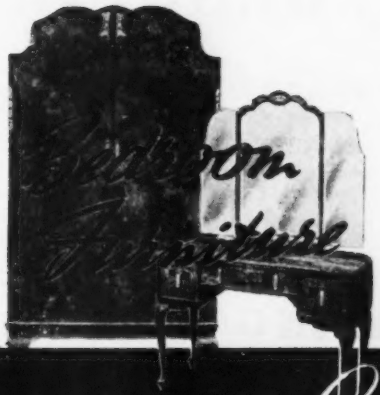

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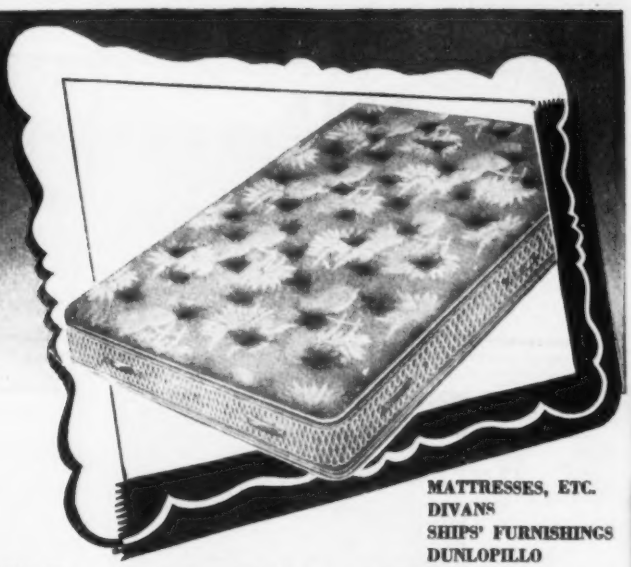

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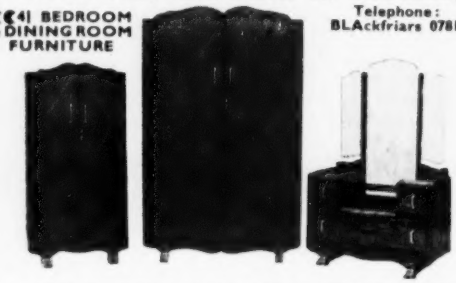

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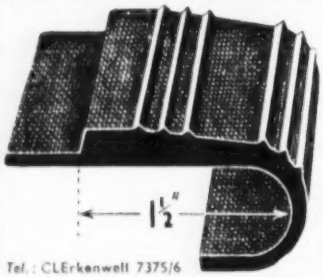

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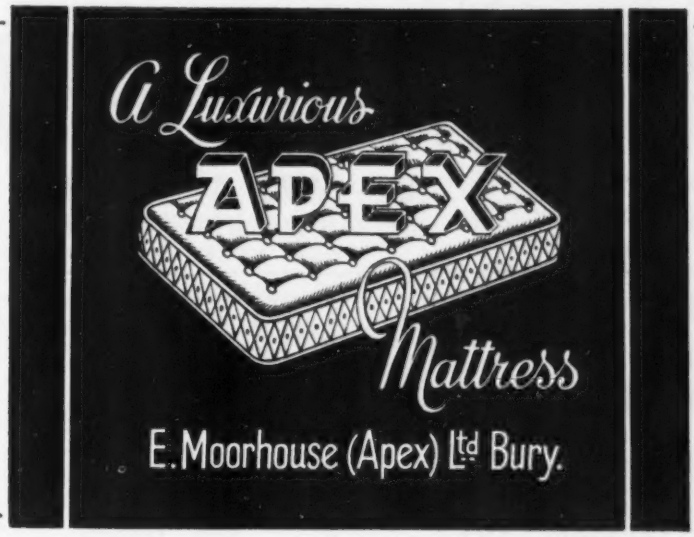

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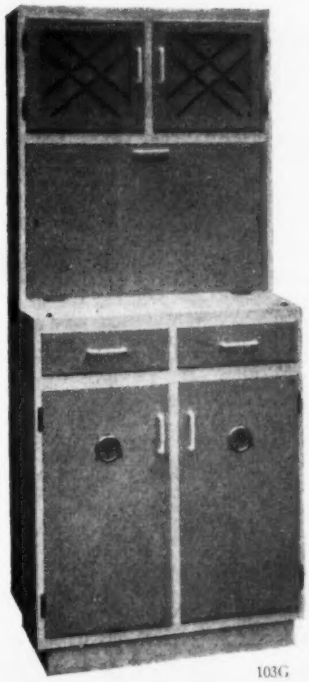

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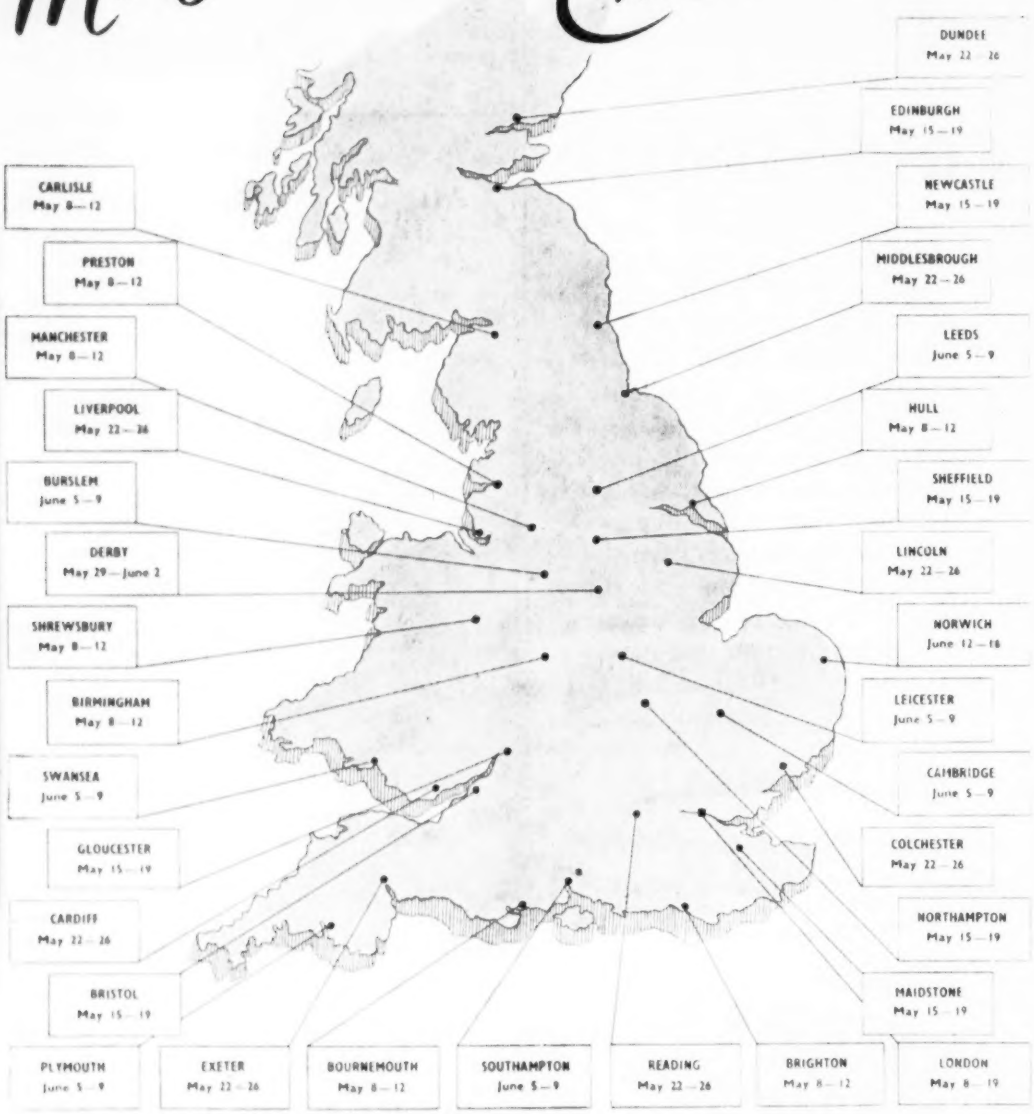

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180, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Tel: CHAncery 8844 (15 lines)
May 19, 1950

Furniture Development Council Gives Results Of Its First Year's Work

Emphasis on Long-term Problems

MAINTENANCE of the quality of furniture; safety in factories and the prevention of accidents; education. These are the subjects on which the Furniture Development Council has decided to concentrate rather than dissipate its energies over too wide a field. While not ignoring day to day problems, the Council considers that it is mainly concerned with fundamental, long-term questions which, otherwise, would take second place to individual everyday problems.

THE report, which will be circulated to all firms registered with the Council, begins by examining the relation of the F.D.C. to other bodies and bases its long-term policy on the premise that it has wider terms of reference than either side of the industry or of the Joint Industrial Council. Its function is to "promote action" by the appropriate organisation of the industry such as the J.I.C., the Confederation, the B.F.M., and N.A.R.F.

The report says that the F.D.C. has reviewed a number of the recommendations made by the Working Party report on the furniture industry, and has observed that the conditions envisaged by the Working Party in their report are in many ways different from those which now exist. This is why it has given priority to those recommendations which, in present circumstances, will justify the promotion of action.

The report then goes on to recount the history of the formation of the Council, registrations and levy.

Maintenance of quality is next dealt with, and the report says that during the first year of its work, the Council took action on three important recommendations in the Working Party report that were aimed at maintaining quality.

(a) Marking with name of manufacturer. The Council pressed the Board of Trade to promote legislation for the marking of furniture with the maker's trading name and address, so that the goods might be identified with the manufacturer.

The Council also proposed to the Board of Trade, as an interim measure, that all Utility furniture should be marked with the trading name and address of the manufacturer, as well as with his Utility number.

(b) Compliance with the General Specification. The Utility Mark may only be applied to furniture made in accordance with the "Specification for Utility Furniture." The Council represented to the Board of Trade the urgent necessity of all possible steps being taken to prevent furniture being produced below the standard Specification.

(c) Standard Tests for the Performance of Furniture. The Working Party report recommended that standards embodying performance tests should be devised for essential articles of furniture and that this work should be undertaken by the J.I.C.

Since these proposals involve an entirely new and untested field, the Council felt that before approaching the J.I.C. it should first carry out research itself and, if and when it was satisfied that such tests were of practical value, it should then promote the use of such standards through the J.I.C.

The Council was fortunate in re-

(*continued over page*)

LEBUS TO OPEN FACTORY IN READING

"FURNISHING WORLD" understands that Harris Lebus, Ltd., of Tottenham, are to establish a branch factory at the Aerodrome, Woodley, near Reading. This factory will be devoted entirely to upholstery manufacture and, although plans are not yet complete, it is learned that the plant will be in production "in the fairly near future."

It will be remembered that Harris Lebus, Ltd., world-famous for more than 100 years as cabinet manufacturers, re-entered the upholstery field only two or three years ago. After a considerable amount of research the firm has decided that full scale production should now be started in a factory specially planned for the purpose, and further details will be issued soon.

Mr. Alec D. Jessup is the director in charge of the upholstery section of the company.

Development Council Reports on—

First Steps To Formulate Performance Standards

And Training of New Workers

(from previous page)

ceiving an offer of research facilities from the Imperial College of Science and the Royal College of Art, who also offered space in their School of Wood, Metals and Plastics as soon as the alterations to their premises were completed towards the end of the year.

A Technical Panel consisting of representatives from the industry, the Imperial College of Science and the Royal College of Art was then set up to assist and guide the work. The personnel of the Panel can be extended as occasion arises.

Sir David Waley, F.D.C. chairman

The J.I.C. accepted an invitation to appoint a parallel panel to advise on the practical aspects in the industry and to deliberate with the Council's Technical Panel with particular reference to the selection of the most suitable types of furniture to be tested. The J.I.C. Panel consists of:

Mr. G. Anderson, 76, Mersey Road, London, E.17;

Mr. P. J. Birch, William Birch Ltd., High Wycombe;

Mr. M. Fenton, 2, Milstead House, London, E.8;

Mr. D. Hurst, 37, Hazelbury Road, London, N.17;

Mr. V. N. Radford, The Stag Cabinet Co., Ltd., Nottingham;

Mr. H. Sadgrove, Sadgrove & Co., Ltd., 194, Old Street, London, E.C.1.

It was decided in the first instance to concentrate on static strength standards and a programme of types of furniture to be investigated was drawn up. The first tests are aimed at measuring the strength of typical pieces of furniture in normal commercial production. From these comparisons it is hoped to develop a scale of standards.

Early in December sufficient space for the accommodation of a small laboratory in the School of Wood, Metals and Plastics of the Royal College of Art was available and the Research Officer began the construction of preliminary test rigs for dining chairs to start practical investigations.

The report then deals with accidents in the furniture industry in the light of the special report which has been prepared by the Council and which was recently exhaustively reviewed in *Furnishing World*.

The Council states that one of its most important functions is: "Promoting the training of persons engaged or proposing engagement in the industry and their education in artistic or technical subjects relevant thereto." In accordance with the recommendation made by the Furniture Working Party a survey is being made of the training facilities available to the industry and, in particular, of existing courses in craft and design and of the extent to which they are being used. This survey is being made in consultation with the J.I.C.

The Council has followed with great interest the important work which is being carried out by the J.I.C. in order to give effect to the recommendations made by the joint B.F.M.-N.U.F.T.O. Committee on Recruitment and Training.

In order to decide the further steps which could usefully be taken, discussions have been held with various authorities concerned with training and education, such as the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour, the J.I.C., the Regional Advisory Councils, the City & Guilds of London Institute, the British Institute of Management and various Local Education Authorities.

The Council decided that their first action should be to recommend that the work at present being undertaken by the J.I.C. for the training of recruits should be followed up by promoting training in foremanship and supervision. There are at present a number of courses in foremanship and, in order to obtain first-hand experience of these courses, the Council made arrangements for a number of men from the industry to attend them. They have now reported favourably to the Council.

The Council intends to deal next with other aspects of Further Education for those engaged in the industry, including technicians and designers.

Flatted Factories

Following up one of the recommendations of the Working Party report, the Council approached the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, asking that in the planning of new towns, especially in the London area, local authorities should consider the practicability of providing flatted workshops.

The Ministry expressed its agreement, but stated that the Corporations were at present only at the stage of settling their "Master" plans and commencing to build the first houses, and it was estimated that the rate of intake of new industrial firms would be slow.

They also stated that the London County Council was in favour of erecting flatted factories in the reconstruction areas when conditions permitted.

The architect to the Festival of Britain was also approached and informed the Council that the provisional layout plan for the Neighbourhood Unit contained an area set aside tentatively in Stepney and Poplar for flatted factories of two or three storeys in height.

The Board of Trade stated that they had every sympathy with the broad aims of the recommendation, but that they were bound by the Government policy set out in the Economic Survey for 1949 (Cmd. 7647) which imposed limitations on new industrial building.

From this Survey it would be seen that the provision of accommodation for flatted workshops could only be approved if the firms accommodated could show that this investment would increase exports or save imports.

The policy laid down in the White Paper was very exacting, but any concrete proposal would receive careful consideration.

A statistical appendix to the report gives a general picture of the structure of the industry, and as far as it is possible to do so, brings up to date some of the statistics in the Working Party report.

(continued page 63)

Voluntary Liquidation for H. Fass & Son

Estimated Surplus £72,000: Creditors Will Be Paid in Full

THE creditors of H. Fass & Son, Ltd., 10, Byron Road, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex, have received a letter from Mark Banus & Co., accountants and auditors, which informs them that this old-established business has been compelled to go into members' voluntary winding-up.

THE letter goes on to say that Mr. Mark Banus has been appointed liquidator "to protect the assets for the benefit of the creditors generally, and not for any individual creditor to the detriment of others."

The position is that the directors have sworn a declaration of solvency to the effect that the company will be able to pay its debts in full within a period of 12 months.

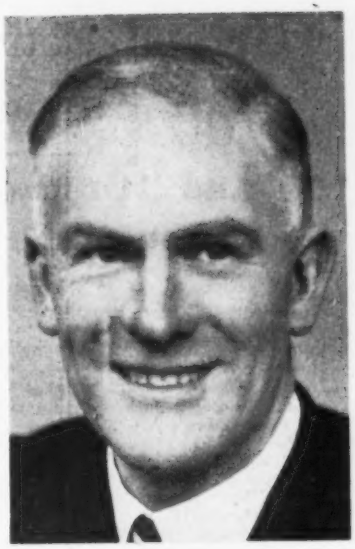
Mr. Banus adds that the freehold premises were valued by Henry Butcher & Co. on December 19, 1949, in the sum of £57,500, and the machinery and plant have been valued by De Grouts at £31,466, which, with additions at cost, brings the total to £47,011 15s. 8d.

"Accordingly," he writes, "every creditor can anticipate being paid in full in due course, as the estimated surplus is £72,340."

Meanwhile, the business is being carried on, on a reduced scale, with a view to the maximum realisation of the stock and work-in-progress.

The statement of affairs of H. Fass & Son, Ltd., is:

		As filed with the Registrar of Companies	Valued at
Assets:			
Trade Debtors		£22,000	£22,000
Stock and Work-in-Progress ...		£55,000	£65,000
Freehold Property		£40,000	£57,500
Plant and Machinery		£35,000	£47,011
Total Assets		£152,000	£191,511
Liabilities:			
Secured Westminster Bank, Ltd. (Freehold Premises) ...	£39,500		
Mercantile Credit (Machinery)	£900		
Trade Accounts	£56,500		
Other Liabilities	£22,271		
		£119,171	£119,171
Estimated Surplus after paying debts in full		£32,829	£72,340



Mr. Fred Riceman

Fred Riceman Replans His New Stores

REPLANNING and modernisation schemes are being prepared for the Deal, Herne Bay and Whitstable departmental stores of Clarabut, Ltd., and Spenceley & Sons, recently acquired by Mr. Fred Riceman.

Furnishing World learns that the Herne Bay establishment will be equipped with a complete new frontage and arcade. Reconstruction work has already begun at Deal, and will result in an appreciable enlargement of sales floor space. Details of improvements for the Whitstable store are not yet available.

The Deal and Herne Bay businesses will in future trade as Riceman's, Ltd., whereas the Whitstable premises will continue to be known as Spenceley's, Ltd.

"Homely" Creditors Meet

AT a meeting of creditors of the Homely Upholstery Co., Ltd., 58, Southgate Road, London, N.1, on May 5, a committee of four creditors was elected.

This committee met again last week to decide whether a composition could be made.

Death of Boston Furnisher

THE death occured recently of Mr. Leonard Stainton, aged 51, joint proprietor with his mother and brother, Sydney, of the old-established furniture firm of H. Stainton & Sons, 61-63, West Street, Boston.

Dawson Bros. (Sheffield), Ltd., wholesale drapers, have opened a modern retail shop at 32, London Road, Sheffield.

Sudden Death of London Fabrics Man

Mr. A. E. Mitchell of Lister & Co.

WE regret to report the sudden death on May 9 of Mr. A. E. Mitchell, of the furnishing fabrics department of Lister & Co., Ltd., Manningham Mills, Bradford.

Mr. Mitchell started in the Curtain Road warehouse of Lister's some 32 years ago and, latterly, had been their special representative, calling on furniture makers-up in the East End of London.

He had a great many friends in the furnishing trade and his loss will be keenly felt.

Until further arrangements are made, Lister's East End customers should get in touch with the London office.

Higher Petrol Cost Will Cut Furnishing Sales

And "Orders Lost Through Extended H.P. Offers"

THE serious effect on the furnishing trade of the increased cost of petrol was mentioned by Mr. R. G. Weekes, chairman of the National Association of Retail Furnishers at last week's annual general meeting of the Association's Northern Area.

THIS price increase was going to increase the cost of delivering furniture and would have a very serious effect on the spending power of the public, because it would bring about an increase in the distribution costs of all household necessities.

"On the other hand," Mr. Weekes added, "there is no likelihood of the public income being increased. This will have a serious effect on the furnisher's business. There will be an increasing tendency on the part of the public to make the best of things and not renew furnishings."

"This petrol price increase may be regarded as an effort to drain away the purchasing power of the public," said Mr. Weekes. "It is an effort to stop them spending money in the shops, and particularly upon their homes.

"Margin Cut to the Bone"

"We all know that our profit margin has been cut to the bone. While there are no negotiations at the moment with those in authority on this matter, we must all think very seriously whether the time is now opportune to reopen this serious matter."

Mr. Weekes also spoke of the work of the Confederation, and its importance during the coming years. The retailer was a public servant, and they did want the manufacturer to realise that important point. He added that the retailer must also try to see the manufacturer's viewpoint.

"If we are not selling the stuff, we cannot keep taking it into our shops," said Mr. Weekes. "Our job is to see the quality of the furniture is maintained in spite of rising prices.

"We are also making progress with manufacturers on contract trading."

In a discussion which followed, Mr. Weekes and Mr. D. W. Edwards were asked various questions such as—Is it within the Code of Trading Practice that the National Hospitals Board be supplied direct from the manufacturers? The answer to this was "Yes."

Mr. A. E. Farrar, of Leeds, pointed out the unfair position in which local traders were placed by multiple firms who opened their shops on a Bank Holiday Tuesday, Easter Tuesday, and Whit Tuesday. In Yorkshire it is customary for all traders, food shops excepted, to be closed on that day, and much astonishment was created in Leeds when a multiple furnishing store opened on Easter Tuesday.

There was a very long discussion, and considerable feeling was expressed, upon the "no deposit," and "three years to pay" hire purchase schemes which were being run by multiple furnishing firms within the Northern Council area.

Members had found they were losing customers who said they were able to get goods on a no deposit system, and could buy additional goods without any extra payment.

Mr. R. G. Weekes.

It was finally decided that the Council meet and draw up a complete "case" on the matter to be presented to the National Association.

The officers of the area were all re-elected, and the committee election results were: Messrs. H. B. Hemingway, A. E. Farrar, C. R. Butler, W. Lewis (Leeds), A. R. Barker, J. H. Lewsley, J. R. Cattle O. Gibbs (Hull), F. Smallpage (York), S. H. Heighway, R. Foulkes, S. Latin (Manchester), J. R. Whitfield, J. Mitchell, T. Gray, S. Pilkington (Rochdale), G. W. Bonson (Altrincham), J. Sweeney, F. Gregory (Bolton), C. F. Spring, W. M. Wetherill (Halifax), C. Ponsford (Sheffield), J. Morrey (Barnsley).

Lindsay Fynn "Vindicated" in Dispute

THE executive committee appointed to examine the position of William McIlroy in the light of the directors' dispute has reported in favour of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Fynn.

THE committee consisted of Mr. Lindsay Fynn, Mr. McIlroy, Mr. Wylie and Mr. Mackay. Its recommendations have been signed by all its members except Mr. McIlroy, who abstained.

In the view of the committee, the differences between the two parties were so great that there must be a change in the management of the company and that the Board could not function properly if Messrs. Kyle and Johnson remained.

The two independent directors appointed to the Board and committee—Messrs. Mackay and Wylie—reached the conclusion that Messrs. McIlroy, Kyle and Johnson had not proved their accusations, and that Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Fynn had been vindicated, in every respect.

As a result of this, the resignations of Mr. Kyle and Mr. Johnson, which were already in the hands of the company, have been accepted, and their employment terminated with agreed compensation for each. At the request of the Board, the resignation of Mrs. Lindsay Fynn was withdrawn.

Mr. Clifford Jackson has been appointed general manager. He is 44 and has been assistant general manager of the Manchester store of Lewis's and general manager of the Glasgow store, Wylie and Lochhead.

It is understood that the compensation to Mr. Kyle was £3,250 and to Mr. Johnson £1,600 plus a car which was previously the company's property.

Overseas Competition Cuts Our Hardwood Supplies

Only 3 p.c. Allocation of Jap Oak

LESS than three per cent of their applications for Japanese oak is likely to be made available to High Wycombe manufacturers following the resumption of timber trading with Japan.

IN view of the heavy demand for the limited supplies of these Japanese woods, ideal for furniture production, the allocation of the new imports will present a difficult problem.

The demand for these supplies is an indication of the continued difficulty furniture manufacturers are experiencing in securing prime woods. Keen competitive buying from other European countries, as well as from America, is affecting availability and price of oak and beech from France and of substitute light utility hardwoods from West Africa.

But in spite of keener discrimination and buying by the furniture trade there is not likely to be any reduction in timber prices, now at a fairly stable level after the lively buying following de-control.

High Wycombe manufacturers, in common with those in many other centres of the industry, are experiencing a slackening in demand for the domestic ranges of Utility furniture, and many firms are now quoting "immediate delivery" for new orders.

Death of Oxford Furnisher

THE death occurred on Thursday at the age of 86, of Mr. Alfred Pyer, 87, Divinity Road, Oxford, who carried on a furnishing business in Cowley Road until his retirement shortly before the war.

Mr. Pyer entered the Oxford City Council as a Liberal representative for the East Ward 20 years ago and remained a member until his retirement owing to advancing years.

Mr. and Mrs. Pyer celebrated their diamond wedding five years ago.

60 Years' Unbroken Service

THE death has taken place of Mr. Ernest John Palmer, aged 90, who retired two years ago after 60 years' unbroken service with Eyre & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield furnishers. He had been a director since 1943.

BIG BEDDING ORDER

MRS. WINSTON CHURCHILL, who is chairman of the Y.W.C.A. Hostels Committee, said that 90 per cent of Y.W.C.A. mattresses were lumpy and not fit to sleep on. They are being replaced.

New Floor for Furniture, Bedding, Carpets

ARNOTT-SIMPSON, LTD., Argyle Street and Jamaica Street, Glasgow, have opened an attractive large new floor devoted to furniture, bedding and carpets.

The carpet section is a large, open floor with ample space for floor display of three lines of even the largest types. Wall displays include carpets and linoleums stacked against the wall or displayed in groups.

The large furniture hall adjoins, with ample space for floor display of modern pieces. The bedding section is a part of the main furniture floor.

Interesting Display Technique in Bedding Show at Bournemouth

A VERY interesting display of Sleepeezee Bedding is now being shown by J. J. Allen, the Bournemouth furnishers.

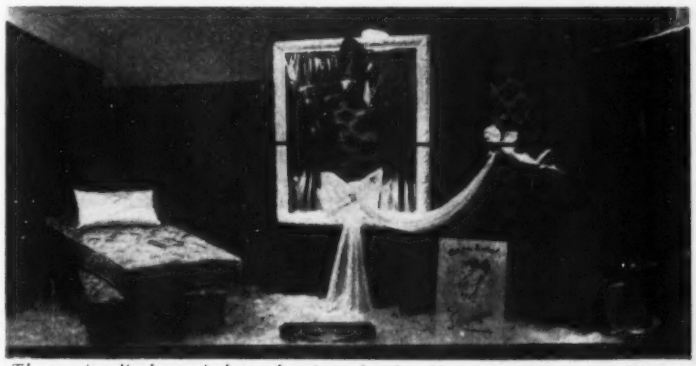
The main feature is an attractive window layout showing a miniature band-box enclosing a small spring interior mattress, and other items from the Sleepeezee range.

This is backed up by four arcade windows, each having as its main feature a Sleepeezee product surrounded by furnishing accessories, all carried out in colour harmony.

Also included in the main window is a miniature iced cake in the form of a mattress which has been made and supplied by J. J. Allen's Nautilus Restaurant, with the unique slogan "Eat and Sleepeezee."

This show, to which has been devoted a large area of window and showroom space, has been arranged by Mr. R. G. Axford, cabinets and bedding buyer, and Mr. P. Tuckett, display manager, with the co-operation of Howard Price, Ltd., the manufacturers of Sleepeezee bedding, and follows a most successful show of the same products held some 12 months ago.

Mr. R. G. Axford, cabinets and bedding buyer for J. J. Allen, Ltd.



The main display window showing the bandbox containing a miniature mattress.

Viewpoint

THE first annual report of the Furniture Development Council, awaited by the industry with interest not unmixed with scepticism, has now been produced. And on first reading it may do little to allay that scepticism.

It is a lengthy affair, this report. It runs into many thousands of words. But by far the largest proportion of the document is devoted to an analysis of the structure of the industry.

There are scores of pages of facts and figures showing how the furniture manufacturing trade is built up, how it is distributed throughout the country, where the biggest volume of production is concentrated, how many insured workers are employed in it . . . and so on.

★★ But manufacturers who, it is revealed, have contributed £17,000 to the Council's upkeep during the first year, may not consider such statistics, gathered from the Board of Trade files, to be good value for their money. They will want to know what the Council has done to *develop* the industry. And this, after a considerable amount of digging and delving, can be collated under three headings.

First, the Development Council has studied very carefully the incidence, cause and preventive measures of accidents in furniture factories. It recently produced an exhaustive report on the subject which was of considerable value to delegates who attended the Safety Conference in London a few weeks ago.

Second, by research and the sending out of "scouting parties" it has sought to determine what facilities exist throughout the country for the training of bench hands and, more particularly, overseers, to enable them to improve their work and take over greater responsibility.

Third, it has taken the first steps towards the formulation of Performance Tests for furniture manufacture, by instituting engineering and laboratory research at a cost, so far, of £500.

It has also done monitory work in the maintenance of quality.

JUDGING THE WORK

WE are well aware of the resentment, even bitterness, with which the setting-up of a Furniture Development Council was greeted by a substantial proportion of the industry. Those who hold that feeling will ask whether this work which we have outlined has been worth the £17,000 which they have paid by forced levy—some £6,700 of which was spent on council members' remuneration and staff salaries, £1,400 on office expenses, and nearly £2,000 on rent and rates.

But we would look at this first year's work a little more objectively and perhaps more realistically, for such a big undertaking as this cannot possibly be expected to produce a giant rabbit from the hat in its first twelve months. Indeed, the report stresses the fact that the Council is concerning itself with fundamental *long-term* matters, which otherwise would be relegated to second place by the consideration of individual day-to-day problems.

★★ Quite obviously the preliminary and exploratory work had to be intensive. It was essential that the Council should get to know very intimately the industry which it was intending to develop. That needed the most careful compilation and study of all those statistics which are included in the report—although their inclusion in that document might seem to the sceptics to be more in the nature of "make-weight" rather than to be of any essential help to the rank-and-file of the industry.

For that reason we do not think that this first year's work should be harshly criticised.

If a furniture manufacturer decides to introduce a completely new range of furniture he does not launch it on the market without the most careful preparation, without studying retail and public reaction, and without much reorganisation of his own workshops. That, from our viewpoint, has its parallel in the preparatory work done by the Furniture Development Council.

★★ We know that this first annual report will be severely criticised in many quarters. We may conceivably find ourselves in agreement with some of the criticisms.

But since, willy nilly, we now have a Development Council, our own inclination is to give it every assistance in our power, not to judge it harshly because its first year's work does not show spectacular results, but rather to wait for at least another twelve months for the exploratory work to take definite shape.

Scots C.O.I.D. and Industry

THE association of the Scottish Committee of the Council of Industrial Design with the Scottish furniture industry during the year was particularly fruitful, states the White Paper on "Industry and Employment in Scotland, 1949," which was issued on May 11.

The furniture competition mentioned in last year's White Paper is believed to have aroused among furniture manufacturers a much keener appreciation of the importance of design, and the trade is to continue the experimental work which was started when exhibits were being prepared.

At the conclusion of the competition the committee exhibited, alongside the winning entries, a selection of contemporary furniture from Sweden, Denmark and the U.S.A., and also held conferences for the managements and operatives of furniture making firms at which they were addressed by distinguished speakers from these countries.

Readers' Viewpoint is on page 63

personally speaking...

NEWS OF MEN YOU KNOW

CONGRATULATIONS to **W. S. Thompson,** a director of Whites (Furniture), Ltd., furnishers, Chesterfield, who has been awarded the Territorial Decoration. Mr. Thompson joined the 40th A.A. Battalion (Sherwood Foresters), T.A., in 1938 and served throughout the war, reaching the rank of lieutenant. His brother, **G. L. Thompson,** joined up with him, and also receives the T.D.

☆ ☆

A STOURPORT carpet manufacturer, **H. G. Southall,** is the first chairman of the newly-formed Wilden (Stourport) branch of the Kidderminster Divisional Conservative Association.

☆ ☆

ON Wednesday of last week, **Mr. and Mrs. Harold Graham,** of "Briarfield," Curbar, were honoured with invitations to attend Their Majesties' Presentation Party at Buckingham Palace. Mr. Graham is a director of J. Graham (Furnishing), Ltd., and associated companies, whose head office is at Orchard Chambers, Church Street, Sheffield.

☆ ☆

IN the local elections, held last week, **Councillor Charles Dunn,** of Chas. Dunn, Ltd., furnishers, Bank Road, Bispham, Blackpool, was re-elected Conservative councillor for the Bispham Ward to serve on Blackpool Town Council.

☆ ☆

THE retirement has taken place of **W. J. Tongue,** furnishing manager of Torquay Co-operative Society, Ltd., for the past 17 years. To mark the occasion, the society presented him with a hall cupboard, and he received a handsome cheque from departmental managers, a pipe and tobacco pouch from the furnishing staff, and a set of pipes from the management committee. New furnishing manager is **J. H. Bradshaw,** formerly of Ripley Co-op. Society, Ltd.

☆ ☆

LAST week I visited the fine new offices of **Ralph G. Staples,** F.A.I.A., who has transferred his accountancy practice from North London to 122, Wigmore Street, W.1. Mr. Staples is secretary of the Association of Folding Furniture Makers, and is now able to provide the association with a Central London address and meeting place. **R. T. Baveystock** is this year's chairman. Mr. Staples has been connected with trade association work since 1932 and for many years was secretary to a group of associations in the stone, marble and granite industries, for which he made a number of visits to Germany and Scandinavia. He is also secretary to the Hearing Aid Manufacturers Association. At the International Congress of Otolaryngology held in London last year, he organised an exhibition of hearing aids, at which he had the honour of meeting H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.

Ralph G. Staples

☆ ☆

A NEW appointment within the John Lewis Partnership is that of **S. R. Derwent** who has taken over the position of assistant buyer for new hard furniture (other than kitchen, nursery and bedroom furniture).

☆ ☆

JAMES LANEY, LTD., furnishing specialists, of 1, De Montfort Street, Leicester, announce the appointment of **George Eastwood** as carpet buyer and manager of their carpet department and workroom.

☆ ☆

I SEND congratulations to **F. J. H. Jephson,** chairman of Ripley magistrate's bench, and **Mrs. Jephson,** of Lime Avenue, Ripley, Derby, who have celebrated their golden wedding. Mr. Jephson, who carried on the business of furnisher for many years, later established the firm of F. Jephson & Co., Ltd., wholesale merchants.

☆ ☆

TWO High Wycombe furniture trade personalities, **Jack Heath** and **Edward Rolph,** have lost their seats on High Wycombe Town Council in the local elections.

Nomad

A Smile with Betts

"Now then—try to imagine I'm in a bunker on the Woodcote Park Course—see?"

"Only Moderate" Business Done at Earls Court

Furniture Firms Blame Recent B.F.M. Show, High Overseas Tariffs

THE very recent holding of a B.F.M. trade show at home, and the high tariffs and import restrictions abroad, were the main reasons given by firms exhibiting in the furnishing section of the B.I.F. at Earls Court, London, for comparatively small business at the Fair.

A DIRECTOR of one well-known furniture manufacturers said that many firms were still dealing with the orders taken at the B.F.M. show in March. Home buyers had mostly built up large stocks then—in some cases they had bought extravagantly and had perhaps even overstocked—and those who visited the B.I.F. were just not in a position to buy any more.

Many furnishing companies had comments to pass upon the few overseas buyers they had seen during the Fair's first week. "Compared with last year," said one representative, "there seems a remarkable lack, so far, of genuine overseas buyers."

Fewer Home Buyers

Mr. A. Berry, director of J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., told a *World* reporter that the Fair had not proved as good as last year, when they did exceptional business. There had been fewer buyers from the home market, although the Queen Anne reproduction bedroom suite in mahogany and walnut and the "old parchment" finish, both re-introduced after ten years, had done extremely well. There had been a scarcity of overseas buyers. They had dealt with one or two American enquiries, but things in this direction were definitely slow. The most encouraging point he could make was that the people who had called on their stand had been actual buyers, and not just visitors.

Better overseas business was reported by W. Lusty & Sons, Ltd., who had taken orders from many countries, including the British West Indies, Cuba, Switzerland, Rhodesia, and Israel. Buyers had mostly wanted Lloyd-Loom products, but the firm had sold some kitchen cabinets. It was this line that interested the buyers from Israel.

Flew Back to U.S. Same Night

One American buyer who visited the stand of Matthew Spears & Co., Ltd., had arrived in the morning and flown back the same night. Overseas business had been "pretty poor," mainly because of protective tariffs, but this firm had opened a number of good accounts with home buyers.

Poor support from overseas buyers, and the B.F.M. trade show, killed the home trade. This was the comment of Mr. B. Wolberg, director of L. Wolberg, Ltd., who said that their production was well taken up before the B.I.F. He thought also that there should be some criticism of the lack of chairs provided in the aisles for buyers. "You don't have to walk very far here before you are tired out, and no buyer is at his best when his feet are hurting him. There are many places along the aisles where chairs could be provided, and tea trolleys should be around to make the tour easier." His firm had received a few promising enquiries from Ceylon, India, and South Africa.

An impressive list of firm orders from overseas buyers was shown to the *World* reporter on the stand of Simco, Ltd. Although a representative said that the overseas market had been very limited, orders for mattresses and divans had been placed by buyers from Bombay, Bermuda, Madeira and Holland.

Another firm, Nathan Agran, had sold to a New York, U.S.A., buyer, their magnificent hand-carved dining-room set in modern reproduction style made in bleached walnut. The main pieces are a sideboard, wine cabinet, service table, dining table, and six chairs covered with Genoa velvet. It will be shown at the International Trade Fair in August, and a member of the firm said that they were really going after the American market. It had been designed especially for the B.I.F., and the first consideration in its manufacture had been craftsmanship. The Americans, they believed, wanted something that was different and they were prepared to pay for it.

Other firm orders included one from Switzerland for walnut office furniture, and one from Cuba for walnut bureau bookcases.

Few overseas enquiries and only fair home trade was reported by A. Hubbersgilt.

Good enquiries from overseas companies and government departments had been received by M. Epstein, and a representative said that their production had been sold three months ahead. Considerable interest had been shown in the new upholstery material, "Lanide," which they were showing for the first time, in conjunction with the makers, Storeys of Lancaster. P.V.C. on a pure wool background, they claimed it to be the ideal substitute for natural hide.

Buyers' Lack of Confidence

W. Steel & Co., Ltd., and C. Lamb & Son, Ltd., joined with others, through a representative, in complaining that the B.F.M. had killed the B.I.F. for home buyers. There was, he thought, a general lack of confidence, a feeling of caution, among the buyers. The present political situation probably had something to do with it, because it meant that the trade was afraid to take a gamble with such an uncertain future. They had, however, received enquiries from Tanganyika, and Karachi and Bahrein in India.

Cautious buying was also commented upon by Vitafoam, Ltd., who thought that most of the buyers

OFFICE · BOARDROOM
AND LIBRARY CHAIRS

Archers
(HIGH WYCOMBE) LTD
WEST END ROAD, HIGH WYCOMBE
(Formerly WALTER E. ELLIS, LTD.)

"Many Overseas Visitors Had Not Power to Buy"

seemed more interested in textiles than in bedding. Generally, one got the impression that buyers were anticipating, or seeking to anticipate, future developments. The firm had taken enquiries from Europe, Scandinavia, and Persia.

"Ours is a long-term policy," said a representative of Lintafelt, Ltd. "We send samples to an overseas buyer who sorts out all the regulations in his country, and we then probably get blueprints. The order may take six months or more before it materialises." As for the home market, they were quite taken up on the production side, and so well known that the buyers who called were making only courtesy visits.

The sales manager of one firm said that a large proportion of the overseas buyers were not empowered to buy. They walked around and collected details, but there was no means of ascertaining what the results would be.

Buyers from Finland, Australia, Norway, and Holland have been among those who visited Chiswell Wire Co., Ltd., who were showing their "Zig-zag" spring. These, they thought, were all good potential orders. They were already exporting to Sweden, New Zealand and Australia.

High Foreign Tariffs

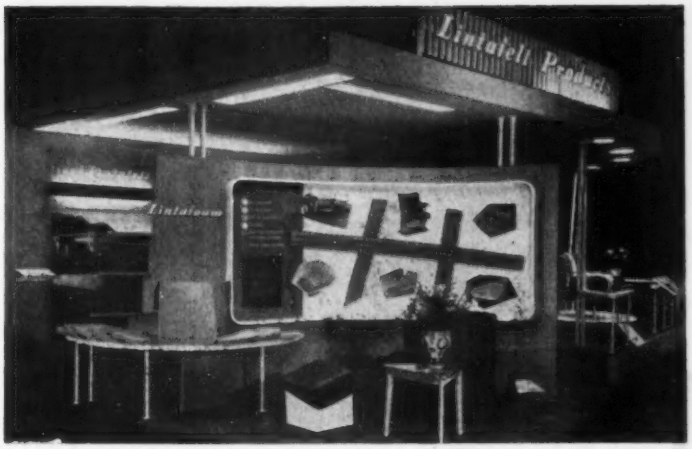
Risboro' Furniture, Ltd., and Goodearl Bros., Ltd., showing jointly on one stand, had done fairly good business. They had taken firm orders from Madeira, Canada and Egypt, and had enquiries from America, Scandinavia and Israel. High tariffs and import licences, however, made things very difficult. They also thought that the B.F.M. had been too close to the B.I.F. to be good for trade.

William S. Toms, Ltd., showing Hypnos bedding, were "very satisfied" with firm orders from Bermuda, Singapore, and, still to be confirmed, Holland. But, as a sales representative said, bedding for export really had to be sold, whereas overseas buyers mostly had to come over here for textiles.

Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., with their big overseas connections, found the export market an easy proposition compared with most other manufacturers. On the opening morning, as reported in last week's *World*, they booked an order for 60 mattresses and a sample dozen pillows and a dozen bolsters, for the Belgian Congo. Another firm order was placed by a shipping line operating in the Far East, and a home shipping line is expected to place a substantial order for mattresses. Enquiries poured in from a wide variety of countries, including Cyprus, Sweden, Holland, South Africa, Transjordan, and Turkey.

Few overseas buyers were seen by H. A. Spiers & Co., Ltd., but this firm did excellent business with the home trade in their wide range of cabriole Queen Anne legs and mouldings, wood turnings and carvings, and opened many new accounts.

Betterway Panels, Ltd., exhibiting self-assembly furniture for retail distribution for the first time, also did excellent home business. Mr. A. H. Cornwall told a *World* reporter that, although they had received many enquiries from overseas buyers, they were at present concentrating upon the home market. Later, it was their intention to allow their product to be manufactured abroad on licence. "We have no intention of departing from our present policy of making occasional furniture. At the moment, the B.I.F. has shown us that we have only scratched the market, and it would probably not be an economical proposition to enter the wider field of dining and bedroom furniture."



Exceptionally good displaycraft on the stand of Lintafelt, Ltd.

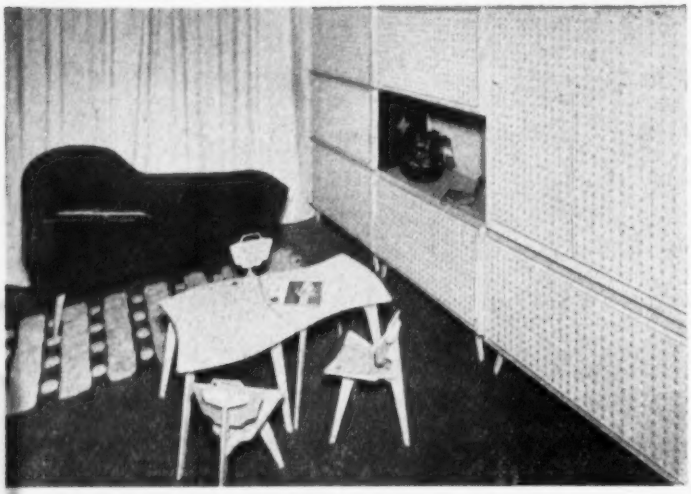
Notts Bedding Show

A "BEDDING EVENT," a special bedding display by the leading manufacturers, has been held by Griffin & Spalding, Ltd., furnishers, to inaugurate the opening of new extensions on the second floor of their premises in Long Row, Nottingham.

Mr. W. Ashcroft, manager of the furniture department, said they were extremely pleased with the results.

H. A. Spiers & Co., Ltd., had a fine show of furniture parts for assembly.

"Furnishing World's" Own Reporters and Cameramen Tell



SCOTTISH Furniture Manufacturers, Ltd., the company formed by Scottish firms to promote a joint dollar drive, made an impressive debut at the B.I.F. with a stand that is magnificent in conception, practical in purpose, and which makes the strongest possible appeal to the dollar markets for which it is expressly designed.

SIX rooms, each superbly furnished down to the smallest detail, comprise one of the finest exhibits of contemporary furniture ever seen.

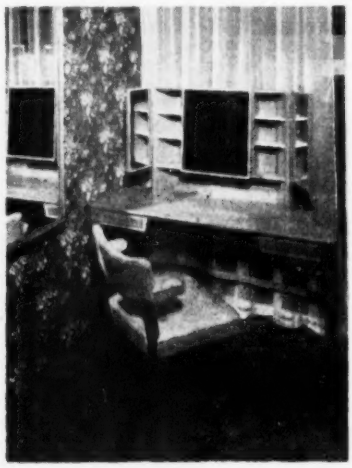
The office, which is in practical use by the company but which is also part of the exhibit, is richly furnished with a general colour scheme of mahogany and scarlet. A special feature of an executive's desk is the filing trays which have tambour fronts.

Fitted with a plastic top, the desk has a raised lip at the back to prevent papers from slipping on to the floor.

The typist's desk has an aluminium paper slot which lifts out of the desk top, and is equipped with a tubular tray, for a telephone or books, which pivots out of the way when not in use. Storage units with a hanging cupboard, have inlaid handles and roller blinds which lock the file trays out of sight.

The designer of the office furniture is Dennis Lennon, M.C., A.R.I.B.A.

The dining-room, designed by Brian O'Rorke, A.R.A., R.D.I., F.R.I.B.A., has a round beechwood table with a turntable dumb waiter in the centre, and tartan covered, "thistle-back" chairs.



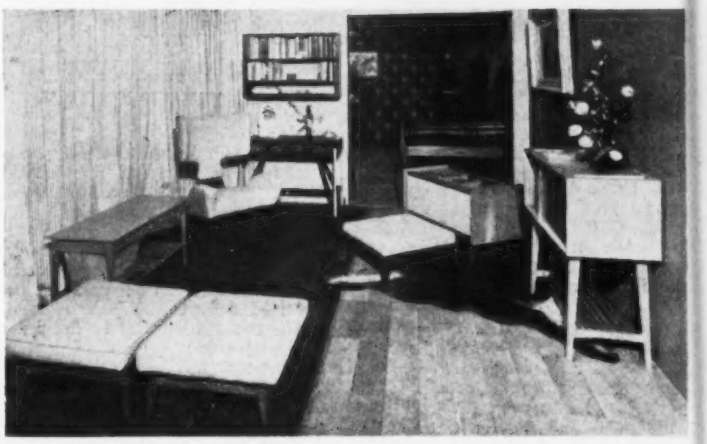
Full Story of Scots' Dollar-Drive Stand at Earl's Court

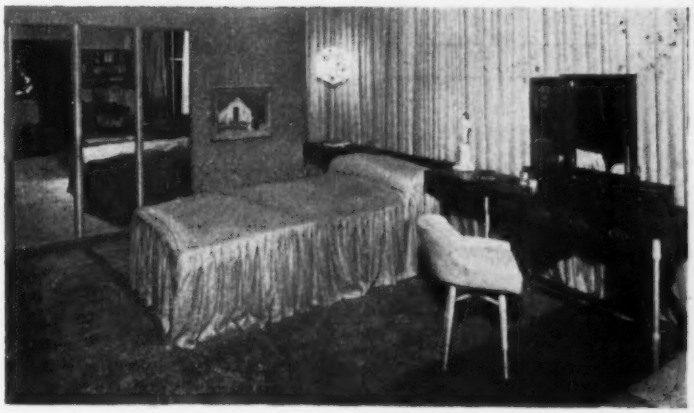
The library, in the same section, which has been designed by R. D. Russell, R.D.I., F.S.I.A., and R. Y. Goodden, R.D.I., A.R.I.B.A., F.S.I.A., makes good use of contemporary unit furniture. The method of building up the units, which are widely varied, is of considerable interest. Each unit is a separate piece built up on the ladder principal, and the bookcases which reach to the ceiling aroused a lot of admiring comment.

The bedroom suite presents an inviting sight with its warm, golden mahogany furniture. Many visitors queried the lack of a wardrobe until it was pointed out that the Americans do not use them, and that the fitments of glass and mahogany were to simulate the built-in wardrobes in use over there. The bedhead has two storage units, and the whole appearance of the room is of elegance and comfort.

Indian laurel and ash are the main woods used in the furniture shown in the "teen-age" girl's bedsitting room. There is a handsome writing table, and an unusual worktable with a sliding top and a drawer which pushes right through, and which may, therefore, be opened from either side. Storage units with moulded glass inlays provide drawers, cupboards, and trays, and these fit on to whitewood corner uprights. Two small stool units join together, when required, to form a couch with one end which may be raised for reading. The designers are Neville Ward, B.Arch.,

(*continued page* 60)





Story of the Scottish Stand

(from page 59)

A.R.I.B.A., and Frank Austin, M.S.I.A.

Storage units in ash and plastic are again used in the nursery which was planned by the same designers. The units have a drop front, with drawers and a small wardrobe. There is a novelty play table with a built-in blackboard and coloured beads, fitted with castors and a handle for easy moving. A nursing chair provides comfort for the mother, and the bed extends in length as the child grows. The small dressing table unit with a mirror has a plastic top. Small plastic-topped tables, complete with miniature chairs, have been designed to fit together, rather like a jigsaw puzzle, to make any required size.

A large radiogram in mahogany and elm is a feature of the lounge, designed by Jacques Groag, F.R.I.A.S. It has ample storage space for records. Unusual fireside chairs have the front posts but no arms. They have been designed to give comfortable elbow room and, while achieving their purpose, provide one of the most unusual designs in occasional chairs seen for some time. Walnut is combined with sycamore binding in the construction of a pleasing hall or blanket chest.

Throughout the exhibit, the lighting fitments, rugs, carpets, and draperies have all been made by Scottish firms.

SOLD OUT ON FIRST DAY

WITHIN a few hours of the opening of the B.I.F., every item of furniture on the stand of Scottish Furniture Manufacturers, Ltd., was sold.

Overseas buyers were very impressed by the furniture, particularly those from America. A typical comment was: "This is just the kind of furniture wanted in the States," made by the editor of the American magazine "Homes & Gardens."

A home buyer was so delighted with the pieces that he purchased one set of each group of furniture for his own use.

Preston's Golf for F.T.B.A.

PRESTON and District branch F.T.B.A. will hold their sixth annual golf tournament at the Fairhaven Golf Club on June 21. A good collection of prizes has been subscribed and presented by members of the furnishing trade.

The team shield, with prizes for individual members of the winning team, will again be competed for and it is hoped that teams will be entered from the following areas: Manchester, Liverpool, Preston and Southport, Bolton and Chorley, Blackpool, Fleetwood and Lancaster, Blackburn, Accrington and Burnley, Warrington, Wigan and St. Helens.

Teams will consist of eight players (best six scores to count) and all must be associated with the furniture trade.

There will be an entrance fee of 10s. for the funds of the F.T.B.A. Green fees at the golf club have been arranged at 5s. for the day.

There will be an optional sweepstake of 2s. 6d., two-thirds to go to the winner and one-third to the runner-up, after 20 per cent has been deducted for the F.T.B.A.

The competition will be decided on the Stableford system of scoring. Competitors will be divided into two divisions, those with handicaps of twelve and under in division one, and those with handicaps over twelve in division two. There will be pitching and putting competitions.

Entry forms are obtainable from the hon. golf secretary, Mr. R. F. Hardiman, 405, Liverpool Road, Birkdale, Southport. Telephone number Ainsdale 7417.

Hull Tourney, Too

THE Hull and District branch of the F.T.B.A. will hold a golf tournament at the Hull Golf Club, Kirkella, Hull, at 2.0 p.m. on Thursday, July 13. There are three cups to be won.

Persons desirous of entering in the tournament should notify the secretary, 5, Staveley Road, Hull, as soon as possible.

Buyers in Annual Golf Match

THE finals of the Buyers' Benevolent Association's National Open Golf Competition will be held at Moor Park Golf Club, near Rickmansworth, Herts, on Wednesday, June 21.

Any amateur (lady or gentleman) in any trade or profession may compete. The competition will consist of a qualifying round to be played on any course and the best 144 players will compete in the finals.

All particulars may be obtained from the general secretary and press officer, Buyers' Benevolent Association, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Abbey 3583.

Furniture Shop Damaged By Fire

THERE was a serious fire at the Shooter's Hill, Cowes, Isle of Wight, premises of H. J. Morgan (Cowes), Ltd., on May 12.

The shop was seriously damaged and a furniture store behind the shop was completely destroyed, and with it a quantity of privately-owned furniture being kept in store.

The contents of the store included some valuable antiques.

To Sell Skin Rugs

H. J. Lees & Sons (London), Ltd., 113, Cannon Street, E.C.4, have taken over the sole selling agency for the Winter Fur Co., manufacturers of sheepskin rugs, Bow Lane, London, E.C.4.

Furnishing World understands that Pontycymmer Co-operative Society, Ltd., which already have thirteen branch stores, plan to open seven more branches. No definite details are yet available.

New arrangements for distribution of Christie-Tyler chairs in Northern Ireland have just been made. They will be distributed by John R. Stewart, of 3-23, Cuba Street, Belfast (Telephone: Belfast 58079).

HYPNOS Mattresses and Pillows
WILLIAM·S·TOMS·LIMITED
HIGH WYCOMBE AND EXETER
Hypnos Productions: Spring Interior Mattresses, Divans, Bedsteads and Spring Mattresses.

Furniture Sales, Turnover Rose in March

THE index for furniture and furnishings rose by 10 per cent in March, and the value of turnover increased by 20 per cent compared with the previous year, the expansion being most marked in the Suburban London Area.

Stock figures, responding to the higher level of sales, rose by 33 per cent.

The percentage changes in the areas compared with a year ago were:—

Furniture and Furnishings. London Suburban + 26, Midlands and South Wales + 26, North-East + 26, Scotland + 19, North-West + 19, South of England + 19; London Central and West End + 14.

Furniture and B-dding. London Suburban + 32; North-East + 31, North-West + 23, Midlands and South Wales + 21, South of England + 21, London Central and West End + 17.

Furnishing Fabrics and Household Textiles. Midlands and South Wales + 28, North-West + 14, South of England + 14, London Central and West End + 14, North-East + 12, London Suburban + 12.

Floor Coverings. North-East + 23, Midlands and South Wales + 23, South of England + 20, London Suburban + 19, London Central and West End + 11, North-West + 9.

The panel of independent retailers who make returns to the Board of Trade also reported increases in turnover, compared with a year ago; this was more than a quarter higher.

Second Furniture Convention Opens on Wednesday

Four Important Business Sessions at Scarborough Gathering

AT 10.15 next Wednesday morning the Mayor of Scarborough will officially open the B.F.M.'s second annual Furniture Convention in the Olympia Ballroom of the Royal Hotel.

Delegates and their ladies will arrive at Scarborough on Tuesday afternoon, and in the evening there will be an informal reception at the Royal Hotel by the chairman of the B.F.M. and Mrs. Wynn Healy.

Immediately after Wednesday morning's opening of the Convention, the president will address delegates.

Then comes the first business session with the president, Mr. MacA. Bexon, in the chair. The subject is "Furniture Trade Exhibitions and their Future" and the speaker will be Brig. A. L. W. Newth, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D.

At one o'clock, the delegates will attend the B.F.M. Luncheon at the Royal Hotel, Mr. A. Wynn Healy will be in the chair, and the principal guest and speaker will be the Rt. Hon. Walter Elliot, M.C., M.P. There is no business session in the afternoon.

In the meantime, the ladies will have gone for a motor-coach tour, arriving back at 4 p.m.

Delegates will dine in their own hotels and at 7.45 they are invited to attend a revue at the Arcadia Pavilion, South Shore, as the guests of the Mayor and Corporation of Scarborough.

The second business session will open at 10 a.m. on Thursday. The chairman will be Mr. Cuthbert Greig, M.B.E., F.C.I.S., vice-president of the B.F.M., and the subject will be "The Advantages and Disadvantages of Large and Small Production Units." The speaker will be Mr. A. Godfrey, L.F.M. secretary.

Delegates will lunch at their own hotels and will enter the third business session at 2.30 p.m. Mr. A. Wynn Healy will be in the chair. The subject will be "Furniture Design and Public Demand." The speakers will be a representative of the Council of Industrial Design and Mr. H. E. Gibbs, hon. treasurer of the B.F.M.

In the evening comes a Banquet and Ball at the Royal Hotel, preceded by a reception by the president, vice-president and their ladies.

On Friday morning at 10, the final business session opens under the chairmanship of Mr. R. C. Sunley, vice-chairman of the B.F.M., and at 12 noon the Convention closes.

THIS FIVE-TON Fox Dennis furniture van was built for Steel Bros. (Cabinet Manufacturers), Ltd., by the Arlington Motor Co., Ltd., and is one of Steel's new fleet of vans which enables the firm to deliver their "Butilux" bedroom suites direct to all parts of the country.

Furnishers Add New Display Window

A SCHEME to increase the furnishing side of their business has been drawn up by the departmental store of Kempthorne & Phillips, Ltd., George Street, Richmond, Surrey, and an additional display window has been installed.

Speaking to a *Furnishing World* reporter, Mr. V. Pile, the store's new furnishing manager and buyer, said: "We are really going in for furniture of all descriptions in a big way. Unfortunately, we cannot extend our showroom space but the department is being entirely reorganised to make full use of the area covered, and, with the aid of our new window, we look forward to an appreciable increase in trade."

Particular attention is to be paid to bedroom suites and bedding in the series of displays scheduled for the two windows which adjoin the department.

Morris Leigh To Lead B.F.M.

MR. M. LEIGH (Sterling Furniture, Ltd.), was unanimously elected chairman of the L.F.M. Council at a meeting last week. Mr. Leigh has been vice-chairman for the past two years, and has been a member of the Council of the L.F.M. since it was formed. Before that, he was a member of the F.M.A. Council.

Mr. A. E. Lock (E. Lock) was elected vice-chairman. Mr. Lock has also been on the L.F.M. Council since it was formed, and was previously a member of the Council of the London Furniture Trades Federation.

Mr. J. W. Brett (North Heigham Cabinet Works) was co-opted to the Council to represent those members who are covered by the provincial rate.

£375 Fines For Making Furniture Without Licence

TWO Blackpool directors were fined a total of £375 at Fleetwood last week for manufacturing and supplying controlled furniture without a licence and for evading purchase tax.

They were Julian Hymanson, of Arlington Avenue, who was fined £275, and Alfred Sherwin, of St. Walburgh's Road, who was fined £100, they both pleading "Guilty" to 17 summonses.

For the Board of Trade it was stated that the men were directors of Uneedus Furniture, Ltd., of Fleetwood, since liquidated, which between September, 1947, and March, 1948, manufactured 16 three-piece suites without a licence and also a number of easy chairs. Accountants visiting the works saw a number of chair frames being moved into an outbuilding.

It was stated that there was another director, but it was not known where he was.

62 Years' Unbroken Service

MR. JACK MARTIN, foreman of H. Herrmann, Ltd., London, E.14, was last week presented with a clock when he retired after completing 62 years of unbroken service with the firm.

Mr. S. W. Stamper, general manager, said that Mr. Martin had joined the company as a lad of 12 in their finishing department, and at 18 years of age he was a fully-fledged french polisher and finisher.

When he was 30 he was appointed foreman over a department of 40 operatives, and held that position until his retirement.

Albert Rawley, 15 years of age, and the youngest member of the staff, made the presentation on behalf of his fellow-workers.

A New Restful Pillow for Head—and Neck

A NEW pillow, which is claimed to give natural rest for head and neck so that the sleeper stays comfortable all night, has been introduced by the Ariel Bedding Co., Ltd., Boston.

This pillow, which is known as the "Ariel," is really two pillows. The top one, on which the head rests, is built in three down-filled reinforced sections and is made in three grades, firm, medium and soft. One of these three will give the exact head-height required.

The under pillow remains at constant height all through the night and acts as a natural anchor to the top pillow.

STORY & Co. (Wholesale) Ltd.
Designers & Producers of
Original Furnishing Fabrics
53-54 RATHBONE PLACE, LONDON, W1
Telegrams: "STORYFABS," WESDO, London
Telephones: MUSeum 4611-2

Stockroom Dates

HARRIS LEBUS, LTD., will hold a number of stockrooms during the week May 22-26. The details are:—

Colchester.—Red Lion Hotel, High Street, Colchester. 'Phone 3690 & 418211. Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Dundee.—Large Hall, Y.M.C.A., 10, Constitution Road, Dundee. 'Phone 3805. Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Exeter.—Rougemont Hotel, Queen Street, Exeter. 'Phone 54985/6. Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Lincoln.—Kirke White Boys' Club, Swanpool Court (opp. Barclays Bank), High Street, Lincoln. 'Phone: Lincoln 8431. Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Liverpool. — Produce Exchange Building, 8, Victoria Street, Liverpool, 2. 'Phone 6184. Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Middlesbrough. — All Saints' Church Hall, Grange Road, Middlesbrough. 'Phone: Nil. Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Reading.—The Oxford Halls, Eaton Place, Reading. 'Phone 4014. Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

* * *

S. MORRIS & SONS (LEEDS), LTD., will hold a stockroom at the Grand Hotel, Colmore Road, Birmingham, from Monday, May 22, to Friday, May 26, where they will have on show a comprehensive range of three-piece suites and dining sets, including a display of new designs in three-piece suites (wooden frames) covered in British-made woollen uncut moquettes.

* * *

WOODLAND FURNITURE, LTD., will be holding stockrooms in three North-Eastern towns during June. The details are:—

Corporation Hotel, Middlesbrough, June 1-2.

King's Head Hotel, Darlington, June 6-7.

Grand Hotel, Sunderland, June 20, 21, 22.

Mr. W. B. Gowling, manufacturers' agent, who acts for Woodland Furniture, and who has arranged the stockrooms, will be in attendance.

Upholsterers to Enlarge Premises

J. Markoff & Co., Ltd., the makers of Utility upholstery, 6 & 8, Kinglake Street, Liverpool, 7, have been granted a rebuilding licence, and will shortly be carrying out extensive alterations to existing premises, which will enable another 50 to 100 workpeople to be employed.

Readers' Viewpoint

Friendship Follows a Disaster

The Editor,
"Furnishing World."

SIR, — The directors of F. D. Welters, Ltd., sincerely thank all those manufacturers, retailers and suppliers who so spontaneously came forward with their sympathy and practical offers of help.

Although our loss is very great indeed, this background of real friendship has given us the courage to do everything possible to recommence manufacture again in High Wycombe in the shortest time possible.

Offers of help have been so numerous that in our present predicament there is no other way of tendering our thanks but by means of the Press, and we sincerely trust this will come to the notice of all our friends.

There is a great tribute due to the gallantry shown and the risks taken by all our staff and employees in their endeavours to control the blaze. In addition to their bravery, their attitude to the circumstances, if we may say so, has been amazing.

As our factory was almost completely destroyed we have been compelled temporarily to stand-off nearly 80 of our employees. In the course of having to face this most unpleasant task, we have had the experience of some offering their savings, and their services without wages. Although we have been so badly hurt our burden has been lightened beyond measure by this very human conduct, and similar tokens.

The local fire brigade were all real heroes; they took terrible risks regardless of their own personal safety in their efforts to control and limit the blaze. But for their untiring efforts, which in the first encounter lasted nearly 24 hours, a vast amount of further damage might have occurred to adjoining properties.

No words can express the credit due to them.

Yours, etc.,
F. D. WELTERS.
(Director, F. D. Welters, Ltd.)

"Dream Home" To Stay

PHILLIPS FURNISHING STORES, LTD., at High Street, Birmingham, has found that the Dream Home in the store which was opened by Tessie O'Shea some months ago has been such a success that it has been decided to keep it as a permanent feature. The furniture in the various rooms will be changed from time to time.

Structure of the Industry Analysed in Development Council Report

(*from page* 50)

It shows how employment and production in the industry have been expanding and suggests that the trend towards greater geographical concentration in the London area, noted in the Working Party report, has not been resumed since the end of the war, though the London area still accounts for a large proportion of the industry's output.

The high degree of concentration of production in the geographically small area of High Wycombe is shown to account for rather more than 9 per cent of the total turnover of the industry in 1948, and this area is the district with the third largest output, compared with the North-Western Region (as defined by the Ministry of Labour which includes approximately four B.F.M. regions) accounting for 11½ per cent of the turnover, but covering some 2,600 square miles, and the London and South-Eastern Region, covering an area of some 5,000 square miles and accounting for 46½ per cent of the turnover.

Concentration of output in the hands of the larger concerns is considerable, with 17 per cent (about one-sixth) of the number of firms producing 77 per cent (more than three-quarters) of the turnover.

This appendix states that the total number of firms registered with the Council at mid-December, 1949, was 3,055. It also says that the Board of Trade has stated that up to mid-November, 1949, they had issued about 2,900 licences for the production of Utility goods. On page 8, however, a table of firms making "U." furniture gives the number as 1,962, a difference of nearly 1,000.

The accounts of the Development Council show that contributions from registered firms for 1949 amounted to £17,027 12s. 2d. The chairman's salary and council members' remuneration for loss of earnings was £2,108 15s. Staff salaries and National Insurance accounted for £4,666 12s. 6d. Research expenditure on performance tests was £503 1s. 2d. The surplus for the year was £3,855 9s. 8d.

Big Scarcity of Pram Mohair

MOHAIR and similar fabrics used for prams have become scarce. One Lancashire pram firm wrote to the manufacturers for a report on carmine, grey and royal blue fabric ordered on March 1.

The reply came back: "There has unfortunately been a dislocation of supplies due to (a) the basic raw materials having been taken for dollar exports; (b) the greatly increased demand from this country and also abroad.

"It is most unfortunate that this should have happened to cause such inconvenience to our friends using the material and you will, we are sure, understand this dislocation of supplies is due to circumstances beyond our control.

"From the small quantities which are expected in the next few months we have been able to allocate you 12 yards each of carmine and grey, but there will not be any royal blue. . . . Just when any more royal colour will be coming through we are unable to tell, but it will not, we are afraid, be earlier than September.

"We need hardly assure you that everything possible is being done from the very highest level to obtain further supplies and to get this material running through the pipeline again in quantities sufficient to meet the demand."

SAMPEX
FURNISHING FABRICS
FOR THE UPHOLSTERY TRADE
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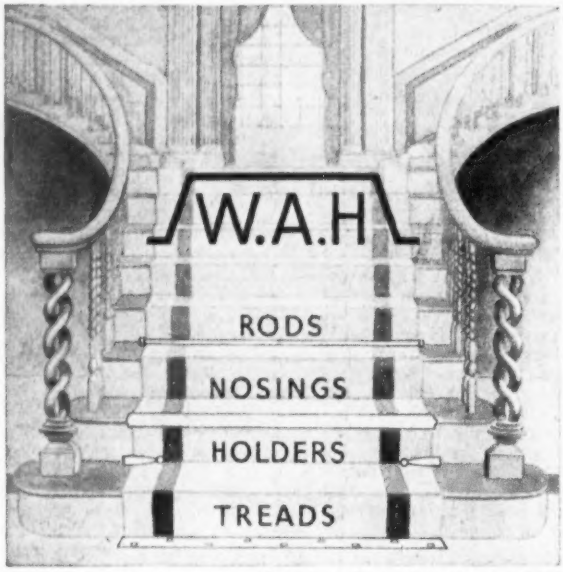

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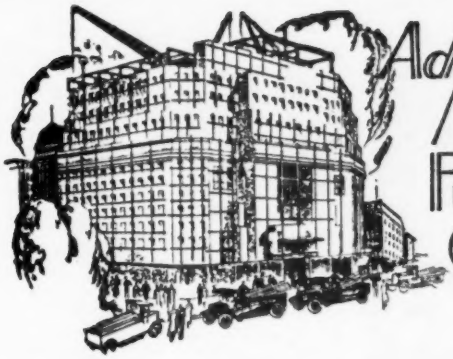

Advance News of Furnishing Contracts

STRETFORD. Adaptation of nurses' quarters as maternity unit at Stretford Memorial Hospital, Seymour Grove, for West Manchester Management Committee (Group 14), Manchester Regional Hospital Board. Civic restaurant at Trafford Park, at £20,360, for the T.C., for which detailed plans will be prepared by the Borough Engineer.

WALLSEND. James Deuchar, Ltd., 7, Eldon Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1, have received approval to plans for an hotel at Dorset Avenue, prepared by E. M. Lawson, Barras Buildings, Barras Bridge, Newcastle.

WARWICK. New nurses' quarters are planned at a cost of £15,000, by Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, 10, Augustus Road, Birmingham, 15.

D. Goldfinch, 10, Augustus Road, Birmingham, is the architect for the proposed erection of a nurses' hostel, etc., at the Warwick Hospital.

STOKE-ON-TRENT. The architect for partial rebuilding of Theatre Royal, Hanley, is G. A Greaves, 45, Trinity Street, Hanley. The Ministry of Works proposes to issue a building licence.

SUTTON COLDFIELD. Plans submitted: Rebuilding on extended site, Plough and Harrow P.H., Slade Road, Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, Ltd.

WASHINGTON (Co. Durham). The architect for the U.D.C.'s scheme to rebuild the Council Offices, for which quantities will be prepared for the first stage, is Edwin M. Lawson, Barras Buildings, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The cost is estimated at £23,000.

BRIERLEY HILL. The T.C. proposes to erect a civic building at "The Elms" site and will have plans prepared.

BLACKPOOL. Blackpool Tower Co., Ltd., have had an application approved for structural alterations to Blackpool Tower Buildings, which are to cost £15,000.

BRIGHTON. Plans submitted: Additions, etc., at Ovingdean Hall, for Brighton School for the Partially Deaf.

CHESTER. Alterations to provide pædiatric unit, additional nurses' accommodation at Nightingale Block, tuberculosis ward, etc., at Chester City Hospital, to cost £21,000, have been approved by Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, of Alexandra Buildings, 19, James Street, Liverpool.

BIG MANSION TO BE MADE INTO HOTEL

CHESHIRE. Threlfall's Brewery Co., Manchester, have acquired a large mansion, Hooton Grange, for conversion into a high-class residential hotel. The mansion is on Chester Road. Plans include provision of modern kitchen equipment and bedrooms.

COVENTRY. T.C. has approved for submission to M.H. revised plans for the proposed Old People's Home in Broad Lane.

CROSBY. A residential hotel at Waterloo is proposed by Threlfalls Brewery Co., Ltd., Liverpool.

DROITWICH. Holt Brewery Co., Ltd., have received approval of Licensing Justices for a new inn at Stalls Farm Estate, to be called the Doverdale Arms.

EDINBURGH. Plans for the new School of Agriculture have been approved by the Governors of the East of Scotland College of Agriculture at an estimated cost of £350,000.

ENFIELD. The surveyors for shops, cinema, etc., proposed at Hertford Road are J. Fullerton & Tusler, 142, Wigmore Street, London, W.1.

GRANTHAM. The Hospital Management Committee has submitted to Sheffield Regional Hospital Board items for a new nurses' home and additions to various departments, including enlarged pharmacy, pathological, physiotherapy and X-ray departments, to cost £60,000.

£63,000 TO BE SPENT ON NURSES' HOME

BIRMINGHAM. The Regional Hospital Board is recommended to approve in principle various schemes, as follows: A cubicle ward at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Dudley, at £3,000; laundry extensions at General Hospital, Hereford, at £4,950; extensions of nurses' home at Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital, Oswestry, £63,000; regional neuro-surgical centre at Smethwick Isolation Hospital.

GUILDFORD. Guildford Ice Skating Club has asked the T.C. to lease or sell a site at Station Meadows for a proposed ice rink.

LEEDS. A maternity and child welfare centre at the junction of Jack Lane and Whitehouse Street is proposed by the T.C. at £12,000.

Rebuilding to provide a preliminary training school at Western General Hospital, Anlaby Road, Hull, for Leeds Regional Hospital Board. Board's architect, 29-31, Eastgate, Leeds, 2.

LONDON. Whitbread & Co., Ltd., Chiswell Street, E.C.1, propose rebuilding of Tiger's Head public-house at Bromley Road, S.E.

LONDON (Bloomsbury). Reconstruction of south wing, B.M.A., Tavistock Square, W.C. H. Neal, 117, Baker Street, W.1.

LONDON (Hammersmith). A scheme for an educational and youth centre at Shepherd's Bush Synagogue, 76-80, Netherwood Road, W.14, has been prepared by Carl Fisher, 15, Addisland Street, Holland Park, London, W.14.

LONDON (Westminster). Repairs at Empire Restaurant, Wilton Road, S.W.1, to cost £25,000, are planned by Aerated Bread Co., Ltd., of Camden Road, N.W.1.

LONDON (Wood Green). B.C. reports that the architects, Brown, Henson & Partners, Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, are now preparing revised preliminary lay-out plans for the new Municipal Offices.

MANCHESTER. Contracts have been let for: (a) Structural alterations, etc., at the Alder House Remand Home, and (b) adaptation of Warford House, to provide residential staff accommodation, for Mobberley Boys' School, for T.C.

PEMBROKE. The B.C. has submitted plans to the Welsh Board of Health for rebuilding of war-destroyed Temperance Hall, Pembroke Dock, at £42,525, and have applied for a grant towards the cost.

'DAYANITE'

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AND
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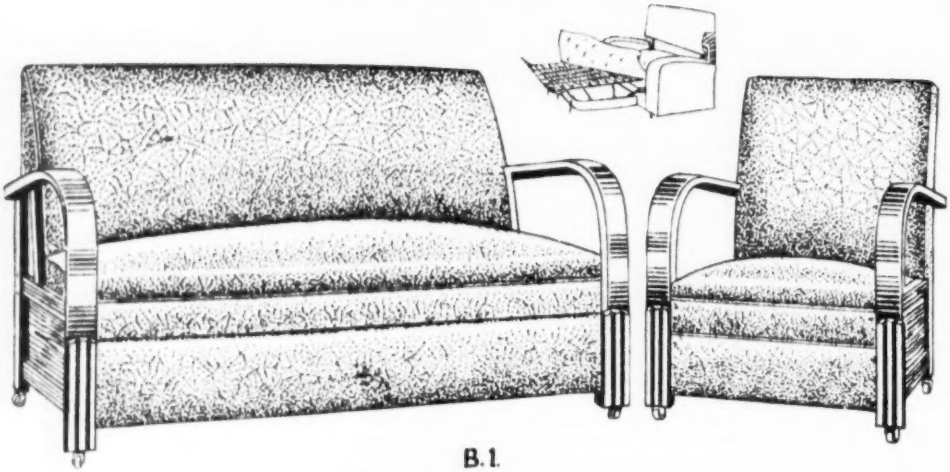

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Companies Winding-Up

Woburn Cabinet Company, Ltd., 5, Giltspur Street, London, E.C.1, furniture manufacturers.

At the first meeting of creditors, the Official Receiver reported that the winding-up order was made on April 3.

The company was incorporated in August, 1946, with a nominal capital of £1,000, all of which had been subscribed for in cash. Premises were obtained at 61, Curtain Road, E.C.2, and the company commenced to manufacture small occasional furniture. Those premises were later found to be too small, and in November, 1946, the company moved to 55, Curtain Road, E.C.2. Although the timber allocation was small the company was doing quite well until April, 1948, when Purchase Tax on furniture was increased. Practically no business was done until September of that year, when the company began manufacturing Utility bedroom suites and acquired additional premises at Gatesborough Street, E.C.2, at a rental of £20 per month. At that time the company was short of working capital, and loans were made to the company to pay wages and overhead expenses.

A director had stated that most of the creditors were informed of the company's lack of funds and extended credit terms were granted.

In March, 1949, the company received notice to quit the premises at Gatesborough Street, E.C., and in May, 1949, other accommodation was obtained at Forston Street, London. These premises were leased to another, who carried on business there as a cabinet maker, and in order to obtain the premises the company agreed to take over the liabilities and assets of that business. With the acquisition of plant and machinery already installed at Forston Street, the company's production was increased.

To keep production at an economic level, which was impossible on the normal timber allocation, an off-cut licence was obtained. The off-cuts were backed with a veneer and used in the manufacture of bedroom suites, but that method proved to be unsatisfactory, as it was discovered that the furniture cracked after several weeks' use. A director had estimated that over £2,000 had been lost through returns by dissatisfied customers.

In November, 1949, timber came off licence, but the company had insufficient funds to buy the stocks necessary to keep production at full capacity. Efforts were made to obtain additional capital, without success, and on March 24 last a resolution was passed to place the company in voluntary liquidation, but the petition upon which the winding-up order was made had already been filed, and no further action was taken. The company then ceased trading, except for completion of orders in production.

According to the statement of affairs, the unsecured liabilities amounted to £7,833. The gross assets were estimated to produce £1,135, and after allowing an amount due under a H.P. agreement in respect of certain machinery there were assets of £581, but from that amount had to be deducted £553 for preferential claims, leaving net assets of £28, a deficiency as regarded the unsecured creditors of £7,805.

The failure of the company had been attributed to the unsatisfactory supply of timber; losses incurred through the use of off-cuts; and shortage of working capital.

The matter was left in the hands of the Official Receiver as liquidator.

The Grafton Furnishing Co., Ltd., Grafton House, 189 to 191, Roman Road, Bethnal Green, London, E.2, retail furnishers.

At the first meeting of creditors, the Official Receiver reported that the winding-up order was made on March 27.

The company was registered in May, 1947, with a nominal capital of £1,000, increased in July, 1948, to £3,000, of which £2,000 had been issued. Mr. L. H. Williams, a director, had stated that in July, 1946, he commenced business on his own account as a retail furnisher trading from basement premises at Leicester Place, W.C.2, and in November, 1946, opened a retail shop at Roman Road, Bethnal Green. The company took over his business and operated from several retail branch shops, and in February, 1948, the company had four retail shops in addition to the basement premises at Leicester Place, W.C. The latter were vacated in May of that year.

Early in 1948 the restrictions on furniture design came to an end, and it was realised that the company with its four small shops would not be able to give customers the required selection of goods, and it was decided to close the existing shops. Between June, 1948, and September, 1949, five premises occupied by the company were vacated and a similar number of other shops were opened in Ipswich, Clapham Junction, Bethnal Green (as head office), Deptford and Chatham. The Clapham Junction branch was closed in November, 1949, and in the following month another shop was opened at Islington, and the Ipswich shop was closed down.

Williams had further stated that in the summer of 1948 the cash and hire purchase sales were about equal, but then a change began to occur, until latterly the H.P. sales had far exceeded the cash sales, with the result that the company, which had been short of working capital to a certain extent, found it increasingly necessary for the H.P. sales to be undertaken through finance houses. Following the opening of the shops at Deptford and Islington, the company obtained bank overdraft facilities guaranteed up to £3,000 by a relation of Mr. Williams.

Between January 20 and 30 of this year further debentures were issued to the extent of £800.

CITY NEWS AND GAZETTE ARE ON PAGES 72 and 73

The Official Receiver stated that on all sales the company's customers were asked to pay deposits on the orders given. No particular amount or percentage deposit was requested, but, according to Williams, a deposit was general in the furniture trade to ensure that the customer took up the order, or, alternatively, that the company did not suffer a loss in default. On May 12, 1948, the deposits totalled £1,395; on May 12, £2,095; and at the date of the winding-up order some £3,500 from over 400 customers. However, Williams had stated that about half in number, but not in value, of those deposits were paid upwards of a year ago, and were now considered forfeited. Several customers had, in addition, made payments by instalments against their orders.

The failure was attributed to insufficient working capital restricting the company's activities, and freedom of design rendering stocks obsolete which had to be cleared at reduced cash prices.

According to the draft statement of affairs there were unsecured liabilities of £13,420, and in addition there were preferential claims of £502 and £3,800 due to debenture holders. After allowing for the preferential and debenture claims, there was a deficiency for unsecured creditors of £5,921.

A resolution was passed for the appointment of Mr. F. W. Le B. Lean, C.A., of Viney, Price & Goodyear, as liquidator, with a committee of inspection.

fine fillings mean better business . . .

Routine production check in laboratory

Continuous or cut-length rolls, any width and weight.

Mattress border felt, and other convenient forms.

Fabricated back pad for fireside chair — for example

'Formafelt' fluting felt in different weights.

'Lintaspring' for cushion and mattress interiors etc.

Whether breaking new ground or maintaining the trust of old customers the manufacturer who makes a product that not only looks well on the surface but also has the quality interior to back it is surely investing for better business in the future. His customers come again!

The Lintafelt organization has succeeded in producing first-class products in a complete range of interior fillings and, by new methods of application have decreased overall costs of quality and quantity upholstery.

Lintafelt. The hygienic cotton felt filling for bedding and furniture, etc. It is 'non-shifting,' 'non-lumping' and easily handled. It is supplied in continuous or cut-length rolls; in weights and widths to suit any requirement; or as cut-to-shape pads with or without hessian backing to form flies. 'Formafelt' fluting felt is another convenient form.

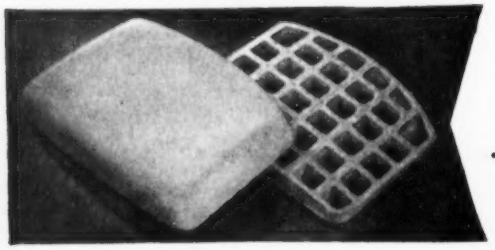
Coir or sisal needled on to hessian is also supplied by the roll or as cut-to-size pads.

Lintasprings. Made from high grade spring steel 'Lintaspring' suite units, tension spring sets, cushion and mattress interiors are produced at the Brimscombe plant. The Lintafelt organization is hoping shortly to be able to meet all the demands of the trade.

Lintafoam latex foam cushioning is supplied to manufacturers of bedding; furniture; car, office and cinema seating, etc. As well as a large standard range of cushions and sheeting, special contract production is a feature of the service.

★ The Lintafelt Technical Development Department is always at your disposal.

A typical Lintafoam cushion



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VOL. 26, No. 322 May 19th, 1950

A PRACTICAL JOURNAL FOR THE FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING INDUSTRIES

Continuing the "World" Review of—

Entirely New Machines for Furniture Production

Many Improvements In 14 in. Cross-cut Saw

THE improved 14 in. universal overhead cross-cut saw made by Metalclad, Ltd., and now being shown at the Birmingham section of the B.I.F., is provided with a rising and falling column, swivelling arm, and canting and swivelling head which enables a wide range of straight and compound sawing to be carried out.

THE machine is of streamlined design, and close attention has been paid to ease of operation and adjustment. The rigid frame has a large foot area for stability, and the column raising and lowering mechanism is totally enclosed within the machine frame.

The handwheel which controls the raising and lowering mechanism is within easy reach of the operator at the front of the machine. There are rigid locks for column raising, and the arm swivelling motions are fitted with positive indications.

The saw carriage arm is well ribbed to prevent deflection and the saw carriage runs on ball-bearing runners to ensure smooth and easy travel.

Felt wipers are provided for the saw carriage slide bars, and adjustable stops for the traverse of the saw carriage.

The carriage is controlled by spring-loaded stops, and it is fully universal through 360 degrees.

Another feature is an automatic retaining latch for the saw carriage in the rear position, and the rotor and stator unit give self-contained direct drive for the saw.

The saw spindle is arranged to take tenoning and grooving heads, and expanding trenching and grooving cutter-blocks.

The saw unit is canted by means of a worm and worm segment, with a positive lock for any position up to 45 degrees.

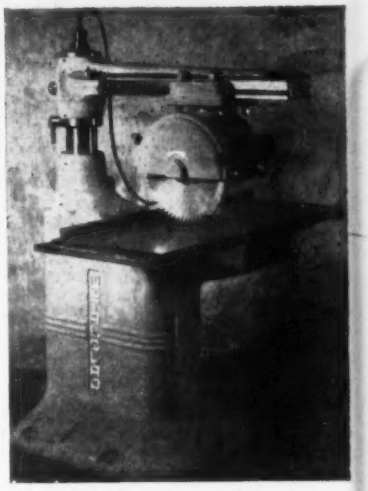
The fence is adjustable by hand levers for all positions of the saw, and there is a flush mounted start and stop panel.

The maximum diameter of saw is 14 in., with a maximum width of cut of 3½ in.

Band-saw Motors Fit Into Machine

SEEN at the B.I.F. for the first time since the war are band-saw motors by Brook Motors, Ltd., of Empress Works, Huddersfield.

These units are fitted with a flange so that they may sit in the circular opening of the frame of the band-saw, the flange being attached to the frame of the machine by bolts supplied by the saw maker.



The Metalclad 14 in. universal overhead crosscut saw which is provided with a rising and falling column, swivelling arm, and canting and swivelling head.

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and at LIVERPOOL, BIRMINGHAM, GLASGOW

Portable Sander Gives 10 p.c. More Speed Than Hand Methods

A LIGHTWEIGHT portable sander shown by Shipston Engineering Co., Ltd., at the B.I.F., Birmingham, is claimed to reduce by 10 per cent the time required for conventional methods of hand sandpapering or scraping.

THE Sundstrand Pneumatic Sander is fitted with solid rubber side pointed pads for dry sanding, can be used for wet or dry rubbing, and for finishing wood, metal, plastic or composition surfaces.

Opposed straight line reciprocation of its twin pads cuts out all vibration.

A range of six different types of interchangeable pads is available which makes the sanding of flat or curved surfaces quite easy. There is no circular motion with the pads; sanding right up to awkward corners and mouldings is possible, and no "torn" grain or scratch marks are left behind.

For wet sanding, the Sundstrand is fitted with an integral water attachment, the flow of water being controlled by the palm lever which also controls the air supply. When the machine is not in use, both the air and the water are cut off to avoid waste.

Shipston Engineering are also displaying on their stand the A.R.M. balancer which extends up to 5½ ft. Tension is adjustable to support any portable power tool, jig or fixtures up to ten pounds in weight.

It is an inexpensive attachment which prevents damage to equipment through dropping, and ensures that the tools are always to hand when needed.

The A.R.M. balancer, exhibited by Shipston Engineering Co., Ltd., at the B.I.F., Birmingham, is shown here being used with a special gimbal to support a Sundstrand pneumatic sanding machine.

New 6-in. Electric Bench Grinder

A USEFUL addition to workshop equipment has been made by M. C. Gooding & Co., Ltd., of Croydon, Surrey, with their 6 in. "Keen" (A.C.) electric bench grinder.

THE motor is totally enclosed with dust-proof ball-bearings which do not require lubrication for a period of two years, as a special reservoir has been provided. All the windings are heavily impregnated with insulated varnish and are tested to withstand 2,000 volts.

The motor is of the constant speed type, approximately 2,800 r.p.m. Fitted with a special slow break and quick make switch, the machine has a fully adjustable tool rest.

The wheel guards have an adjustable rotary movement, and the whole machine, which is inexpensive, is complete with length of cab tyre flex with earth lead switch enclosed in the body.

The motor takes only about 300 watts on full load and may be run from any lighting circuit.

The unit is 13 in. long, 8 in. wide and 10 in. high. It weighs 45 lb.

M. C. Gooding are showing at the B.I.F., Birmingham.

Electric Units for Machine Tools

BUILT-IN units comprising the two essential parts of an electric motor for fitting to the maker's machine tool are being shown by Brook Motors, Ltd., at the B.I.F., Birmingham.

DESIGNED primarily for the woodworking industry, the stator, containing the electric winding, fits into a prepared chamber on the machine, and the rotor directly on to the driving shaft.

The power unit is claimed to take the minimum possible space and to be an integral part of the machine tool. Working with minimum diameters is said to ensure no interference with the work when the machine is in operation. A saving is effected because there are no belts to wear out. Speeds of up to 24,000 r.p.m. can be obtained in conjunction with frequency changers.

As ventilated machines, the normal rating is 45 minutes, or, when totally enclosed, 30 minutes on full load. The units can run light continuously.

The minimum diameter of stator is essential in the design; the stator diameters available are to international standards. To avoid heating, no rivets are used in construction. These units have the stator housed in a rolled steel shell.

A One-inch Glued Joint Carries One Ton

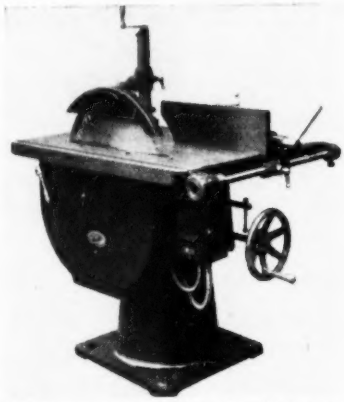
ONE of the most effective demonstrations of a product to be seen at the B.I.F., Birmingham, was on the stand of Beetle Bond, Ltd., one of the B.I.P. group.

One ton of metal weights was suspended on a platform from two pieces of chain joined by two pieces of wood with a one-inch overlap held together by the firm's adhesive.

Visitors were invited to move the

(*continued over page*)

New Turret-Type Saw Bench



This turret-type sawbench which was shown at the B.I.F., Birmingham, was fully described in last week's issue of the "World." Made by J. J. Smith & Co. (Engs.), Ltd., it has a rotating table which can be locked in any position.

(from previous page)

platform and thus impose even more strain upon the joint.

A representative of the company said that two tons had been tested in the laboratory. Their biggest difficulty had been to find a suitable wood that would sustain the weight.

With this strength demonstration was a further one showing its water-resistant qualities. Plywood joined with Beetle adhesive was boiled for six hours in accordance with the B.S.I. requirement.

Canting Frame is Feature of Latest Band-saw

LATEST addition to the range of light woodworking machinery produced by Sagar (Developments), Ltd., is a new 16 in. band-saw which has a canting frame for bevel cutting in place of the more usual canting table.

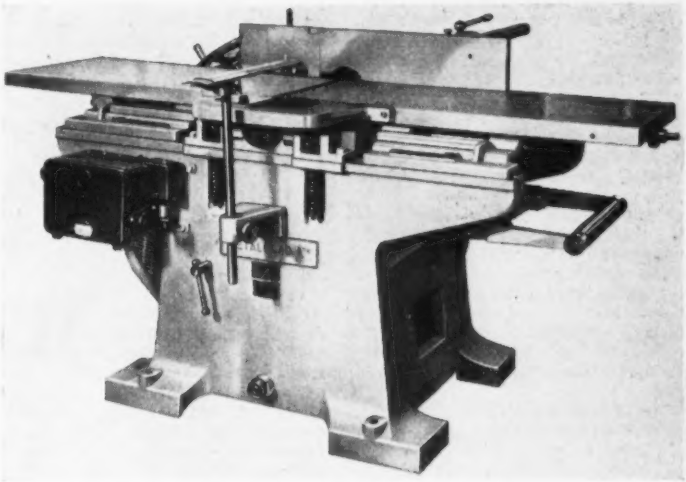
THE machine is fitted with a 2 h.p. directly-mounted motor, and has a one-piece main frame which completely encloses the top and bottom pulleys. Hinged doors provide easy access to the pulleys.

A ball-bearing anti-friction saw guide is provided and spring loading is used for tensioning through the upper saw pulley.

The pulleys are of solid construction, adjustable and interchangeable and covered with damp-resisting rubber tyres, vulcanised and ground all over.

The canting frame, claim the makers, means that with the table always in the horizontal position and fitted with fences similar to those employed on a tilting arbor saw, the machine is able to tackle a wide variety of work.

Multiple Woodworking Machine Is Produced in Six Models



This 9 in. planing, jointing, rebating and moulding machine, model FN1 was shown at the Birmingham B.I.F. by Metalclad, Ltd. The cutter block is of the safety circular type mounted in self-aligning ball bearings.

A PLANING, jointing, rebating and moulding machine, made in six models, was exhibited at the Birmingham section of the B.I.F. by the manufacturers, Metalclad, Ltd.

THE six models which are made in two sizes, 9 in. and 12 in., include bench models arranged for belt drive, and standard models arranged for line shaft or direct belt drive.

The 9 in. model has a table length of 50 in. and a width of 9¼ in., and the 12 in., a length of 60 in. and a width of 12¼ in.

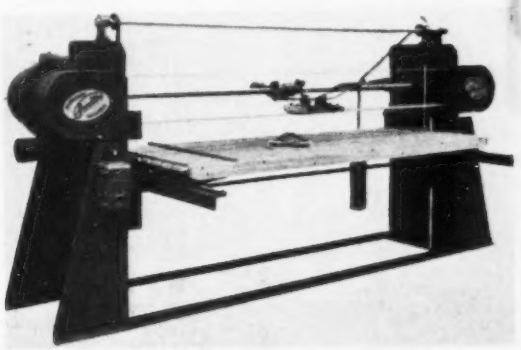
In both sizes, the speed of the cutter block is 4,000 r.p.m. and the diameter of the cutter block 3½ in. The height from the floor to the table top is 34½ in.

The table is planed to give accurate jointing and surfacing and is provided with a horizontal and angular draw-out movement.

Provision is made for pulling the tables apart to give cutter clearance for tonguing, grooving or moulding.

The cutter block is of the safety circular type ground to micrometric accuracy and maintained in self-aligning ball-bearings in a dust-proof case. The fence has a canting angle of 45 degrees.

Low centre motors designed to make the overall diameter of the carcase as small as possible for convenient use in woodworking machinery were shown by Brook Motors, Ltd., at the B.I.F., Birmingham.



A special designed lightweight fabricated frame is a feature of this new belt sanding machine which was described in last week's "World." It was shown at the Birmingham B.I.F. by J. J. Smith & Co. (Engs.), Ltd.

CITY NEWS + CITY NEWS + CITY NEWS + CITY NEWS + CITY N

Ditchburn's Aim to Improve Plant

"PLANT and machinery have been improved wherever possible, and we propose to continue with that objective in view and to have the latest and finest plant it is possible to procure," said the chairman of **Ditchburn's, Ltd.**, Mr. E. W. Ditchburn, at the thirteenth annual general meeting in Sunderland last week.

The company and its subsidiaries had had a reasonably good trading year, and the consolidation of Leeds Cabinet Company, Ltd., and Victor Lightman, Ltd., at Roundhay Works, Leeds, had resulted in material benefit and economy of working. The full effect of this should be still further apparent in the current year.

An interim dividend had been paid on the Ordinary shares, and it was proposed to pay a final 10 per cent per annum, making 15 per cent for the year, and to carry forward the balance of the profits earned, in order to further consolidate the resources of the company and subsidiaries.

In this connection, it was satisfactory to observe that, despite the difficulties of the year, they had increased the carry-forward in the consolidated profit and loss account by no less than £31,668.

Grays Maintain Profit

GROUP profit on trading for 1949 for **Gray's Carpets & Textiles** is £1,030,781 (£1,065,012). Income from investments £899 (£327), compensation from the Ministry of Supply £10,217 (nil), making £1,041,897 (£1,065,339).

Depreciation and replacement of fixed assets £120,199 (£121,884), directors' emoluments £25,649 (£18,500), audit £5,329 (£4,287). Loan capital service holding company £17,704 (£3,071), subsidiaries, £2,467 (£2,034). Special additional depreciation £29,068 (nil), profits tax £144,017 (£147,550), income tax £364,536 (£405,987), less £21,500 (£12,000) recoverable under management expenses claim, and over-provision £5,565 (nil).

To outside Preference holders £779 (£440), profit attributable to holding company £359,214 (£373,586). To expenses of issuing debenture £26,893 (nil), less £16,932 from capital reserve, staff pensions £10,000 (£20,000).

Gray's Carpets Preference dividend £29,322 (£29,385), Ordinary interim 14 per cent £43,120 (same), final 18 per cent £55,440 (same), forward £437,012 (£225,641).

Group's fixed assets £1,730,446 (£1,452,457). Group's net current assets £2,595,617 (£1,808,370). Stocks £1,920,253 (£1,527,485), debtors £695,630 (£539,555), tax certificates and cash £1,006,946 (£906,707). Commitments for capital expenditure not provided for amounted to approximately £394,000.

Thomas Wallis Earn £53,000

GROUP profit for the year ended January 31, after all charges, including taxation, of £53,620 (£66,944) has been declared by **Thomas Wallis & Co.** All of this profit is attributable to the holding company as there are no outside interests.

United Kingdom taxation charged in arriving at profit £67,641 (£48,409. Profit includes war damage interest, net, £5,857 (£1,708 and transfer from stock contingencies reserve £25,000).

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Rowan & Boden Make £382,000

THE trading profit of the **Rowan & Boden** group, it was revealed at last week's annual general meeting in Glasgow, amounts to £382,289, and after deduction of remuneration to directors, staff pensions and life assurance, and depreciation of fixed assets, the balance of profit is £339,897.

The taxation on the profits of the year absorbs £174,026, leaving a net profit of £165,871. Credit has been taken from the sum of £4,000 from taxation reserves not now required. The amounts retained in subsidiary companies total £13,525, leaving a sum of £156,346 attributable to the parent company.

There was brought forward from last year £15,489, and after transferring £66,777 to general reserve, paying net Preference dividends absorbing £4,290, the directors recommended a final dividend on the Ordinary shares of 20 per cent., less tax, making a total of 40 per cent, less tax, for the year, as compared with the forecast of 35 per cent, less tax, made when the company became public.

The unappropriated balance of profit and loss account of the parent company amounts to £51,268, an increase of £35,779 over last year's figure.

The chairman's statement pointed out that the group was in a strong financial position. The current assets exceeded the current liabilities by £741,248. The group general reserves, after capitalisation of £150,000 in January, 1949, and after discharging the new share issue costs of £18,277, now stood at £265,000.

The revenue reserves, including profits unappropriated, amounted to £329,527, after setting aside £123,750 for future taxation, against a total issued capital of £380,000.

In November, 1949, they had acquired on a 20 years' lease, a new factory at Hillington Industrial Estate, of some 32,000 sq. ft. (to replace one of 15,000 sq. ft.) to accommodate the general furnishing side of the business, and it was already apparent that the additional facilities offered by this new factory had afforded opportunities for increased business and more economical working.

Looking at the prospects for 1950, the chairman was pleased to report that they had started the year with contracts in hand exceeding £1,000,000 in value; and for the first three months of this year the value of new contracts obtained had exceeded by more than 20 per cent the figure for the same period in 1949.

The Gazette

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS 1914 and 1926

BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS

Ernest Edward **Hickson**, Rear 33, St. Andrew's Road South, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Lancs, cabinet maker, etc. Receiving Order May 2.

Leonard Cyril **James**, 2, Grosvenor Road, Dagenham, Essex, lately carrying on business at 117a, High Street, Brentwood, Essex, upholsterer. First meeting May 19 at 3, Central Buildings, Matthew Parker Street, Westminster, S.W.1, and public examination August 1 at The Petty Sessions House, Alexandra Street, Southend.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND

Joseph Alfred **Helliwell**, "Cornerways," Hackney Road, Darley Dale, Derby, chair manufacturer. No. 49 of 1933. First and final of 5s. 6½d. in the £, payable at the Official Receiver's Office, 20, Byrom Street, Manchester.

APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE

Leonard **Atelson**, Tuscany Wharf, 6, Canal Road, Kingsland Road, London, and 1, Queens Road, Dalston, London, cabinet maker. Application for discharge May 25 at Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey Street, London, W.C.2.

THE COMPANIES ACTS WINDING-UP ORDER

Clegg's (Furniture), Ltd., 53, Camden High Street, London, N.W.1. Winding-up Order May 1.

FIRST MEETING

Intersigns, Ltd., 69a, King's Road, Chelsea, London, S.W.3, dealers in household furniture, etc. First meeting May 19 at Inveresk House, 346, Strand, London, W.C.2.

DISSOLUTIONS of PARTNERSHIP

Frank **Robinson** and Willie **Cresswell**, trading as **F. Robinson**, furniture dealers, french polishers and upholsterers, 6, 8, 10 and 12, Lynthorne Road, Frizinghall, Bradford. April 22, 1950. All debts by Frank Robinson.

Samuel **Shaven** and Henry **Malafsky**, trading as **Shaven's Home Furnishers**, furnishers, 488, Greenford Road, Greenford, Middlesex. April 8, 1950. All debts by Samuel Shaven, who will continue.

COUNTY COURT JUDGMENTS

The following information has been taken from the Registry of County Court Judgments, the Treasury, S.W.1. Publication does not imply inability to pay. Debts may have been paid, or may refer to disputed cases.

Wilson, Stanley, 22, Bath Street, Barrow-in-Furness, upholsterer and french polisher. £12 3s. 11d. March 8.

Jack Laurence, Limited, R/O: 132a, Upper Clapton Road, London, E.5, furnishers. £21 14s. 4d. April 12.

Wolmans Furnishing Stores (a firm), 279-281, Edgware Road, Paddington, W.2, furniture dealers. £15 6s. April 5.

Wye Valley Upholsterers and Bedding Manufacturers, Ltd., R/O: Mayland Street, Hereford. £79 15s. April 4.

Casswell, L. H. (male), 11, Pittville Street, Cheltenham, furniture dealer. £25 6s. 10d. March 21.

Flay & Sons, Ltd., R/O: 43, City Road, Cardiff, house furnishers. £63 2s. 3d. April 3.

CHANGES OF NAME

Pearson (Faversham), Ltd., general house furnishers, cabinet makers, etc., 8, Preston Street, Faversham. — Name changed to Abbot's Craft (Faversham), Ltd., on April 26, 1950.

Ellis & Sons (G. A. & W. E.), Ltd., chair and furniture manufacturers, etc., Oakridge Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.—Name changed to Ellis Productions (High Wycombe), Ltd., on April 18, 1950. At November 22, 1949, J. H. Hunt & Co. (High Wycombe), Ltd., held 5,291 shares of £1 out of £5,491 issued.

Globe - Wernicke (1947), Ltd., manufacturers of and dealers in book and filing cases, etc., Brampton Works, Billet Road, Walthamstow, E.17.—Name changed to Globe Wernicke, Ltd., on April 19, 1950. At June 24, 1949, F. Wrighton & Sons, Ltd., held 6,997 shares of £1 out of £7,000 issued.

25 p.c. Dividend for Peerless Built-in

A 25 PER CENT dividend, less tax, on the Ordinary shares for the year ended December 31, 1949, has been recommended by the directors of **Peerless Built-in Furniture, Ltd.** This is the same as for the previous year. There will also be a participating dividend of 1¼ per cent, less tax, on the Preference shares for the same period.

Profit, including taxation, for 1949 is £5,273, compared with £11,966 for 1948.

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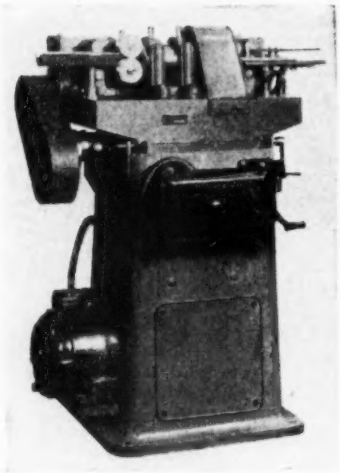

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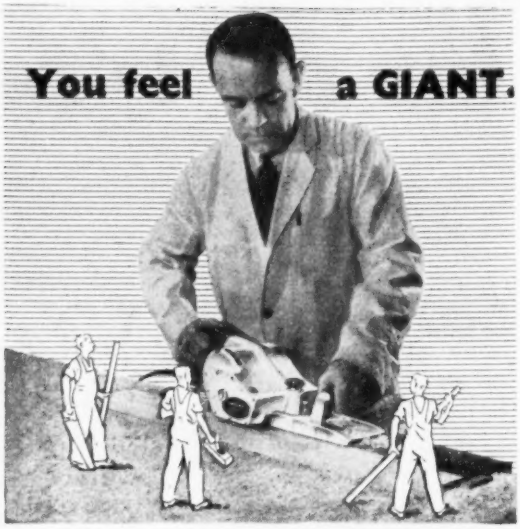

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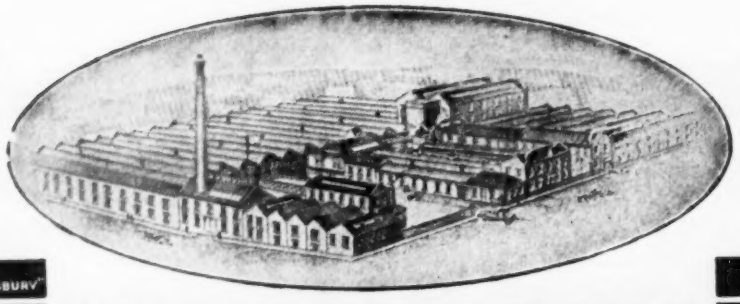

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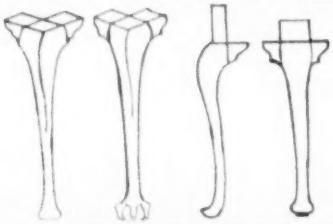

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(continued on page 83)

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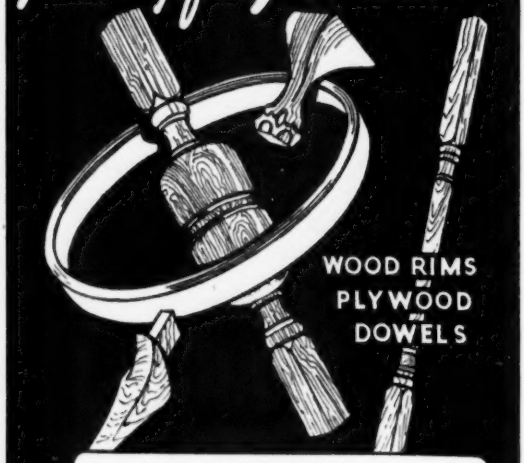

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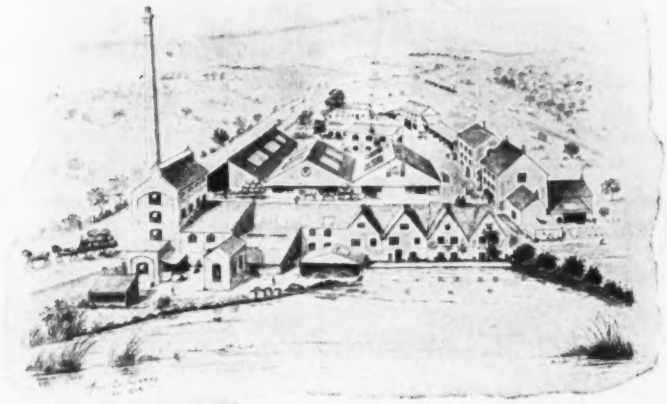

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